千夏のうた

2

CHINATSU'S VOICE

SHOU KITAGAWA

Cover design takeshi sueoka

YJ ヤングジャンプ YJC

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CHINATSU'S VOICE 2

SHOU KITAGAWA

集英社

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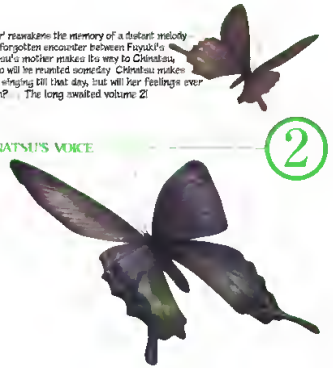
YJ ヤングジャンプ YJC

The reminiscences of 'her' reawakens the memory of a distant melody. The memory of a long-forgotten encounter between Fuyuki's grandFather and Chinatsu's mother makes its way to Chinatsu, who believes that the two will be reunited someday. Chinatsu makes up her mind to keep on singing till that day, but will her feelings ever reach their destination?... The long awaited volume 2!

千夏のうた CHINATSU'S VOICE 2



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学園天国❶ 道人
鳥田ラチラの棚に来ないか?❶ 和佳ラチヲ
にらが鬼王丸❶ 鷹 荒仁/坂本鷹一
ガールフレント 外薗俊也/原天覚人
鷹 原作 イコマ 鷹野 洋
天使のルージュ 山花典之
メリーちゃんと羊 竹宮エリ

2004年6月発売(各鷹とも以下鷹刊予定)

★インターネットでも集英社のコミックスが購入できます!!
http://www.shueisha.co.jp

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CHINATSU'S VOICE

YJ ヤングジャン YJC

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集英社

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★ This is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to people living or dead, places or events is purely coincidental.

English version by Stmated, checked by mimi_lk & The_Mighty_Highlord

CHINATSU'S VOICE

www.thewafflehouse.net

#thewaffleh ouse@irc.irchighway.net

MY TIME TO TAKE THE PLACE...
THIS TIME IT IS MY TURN...
CHAPTER 110 – BROTHER & BALL
UNCLE, DON'T COOOOME!

CHAPTER 10 - BROTHER & BALL
UNCLE!

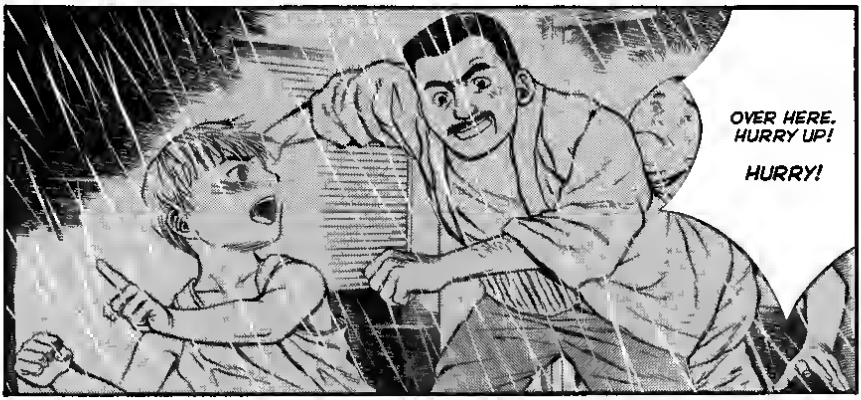
that day,
back when the air-raid alarm sounded, we went to the bomb shelter.
Aw, SHUCKS.
WHAT'S WRONG, AN?
I FORGOT TO BRING THE BALL...
The ball was my treasure at that time. It was a trade with my friend.
Some sweet potato for a baseball.
BUT NOT FOR FREE.
THAT OHAGI MRS. YAMASHITA GAVE YOU.
YOU GOTTA GIVE ME HALF OF IT.
WHA?
WELL, SHOUDDA GO FETCH IT?

I'M OFF. LATERS!
I PROMISE!
OHAGI, Y'SAY?
MY, AT THE SMELL OF FOOD, Y'FLY.
I agreed to it without a thought.
He sure is late...
Ahh, HE'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE...
WHERE IS TADAOMI SHINICHI?
GA-
DOOM

KRAK
KRAK
UWAAH
... The shell landing here was just a fluke.
THAT WAS A BIG ONE!
HEY, IS EVERYONE OKAY?!
But it fell right on Shinichi.

If I had never said anything about the ball...
If I had went to fetch the ball instead...
For the last 50 years, I have been carrying this burden.
God! If you truly exist, then please...
Punish me this time!

Don't die!


OVER HERE. HURRY UP!
HURRY!

DID YOU JUST HEAR A SONG LOST IN THE WAVES...?

CHINATSU...

...?
SOME-ONE'S SINGING?

This voice...
This voice is--
Ahh, I knew it. So it was you--

Gasp!
GRAMPS! CHINATSU!

CHINATSU, YOU OKAY?!

... OLD MAN,
YOU SAVED HER?

I SANG AT THE TOP OF MY VOICE SO UNCLE WOULD HEAR ME.
SO,
UNCLE SAID HE'D SAVE ME NO MATTER WHAT.

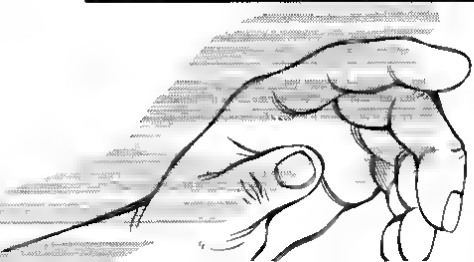
HEY, AUNTIE!

PEACE
I WAS SCARED, BUT THAT WAS SUPER FUN!

ST
K
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW WORRIED I WAS?!
...I'M-
I'M SORRY...
THANK HEAVENS...

THANK YOU...
THANK YOU SO MUCH...
THANKS, UNCLE!

YOU,



U-
UNCLE!
After that day, gramps stayed in bed for two days.

IS THAT YOU, CHINATSU?
WAFF.
I FINALLY REMEMBERED.
THE FIRST TIME I HEARD THAT VOICE OF YOURS.
IT'S AN OLD MEMORY, THAT'S WHY IT TOOK A WHILE...

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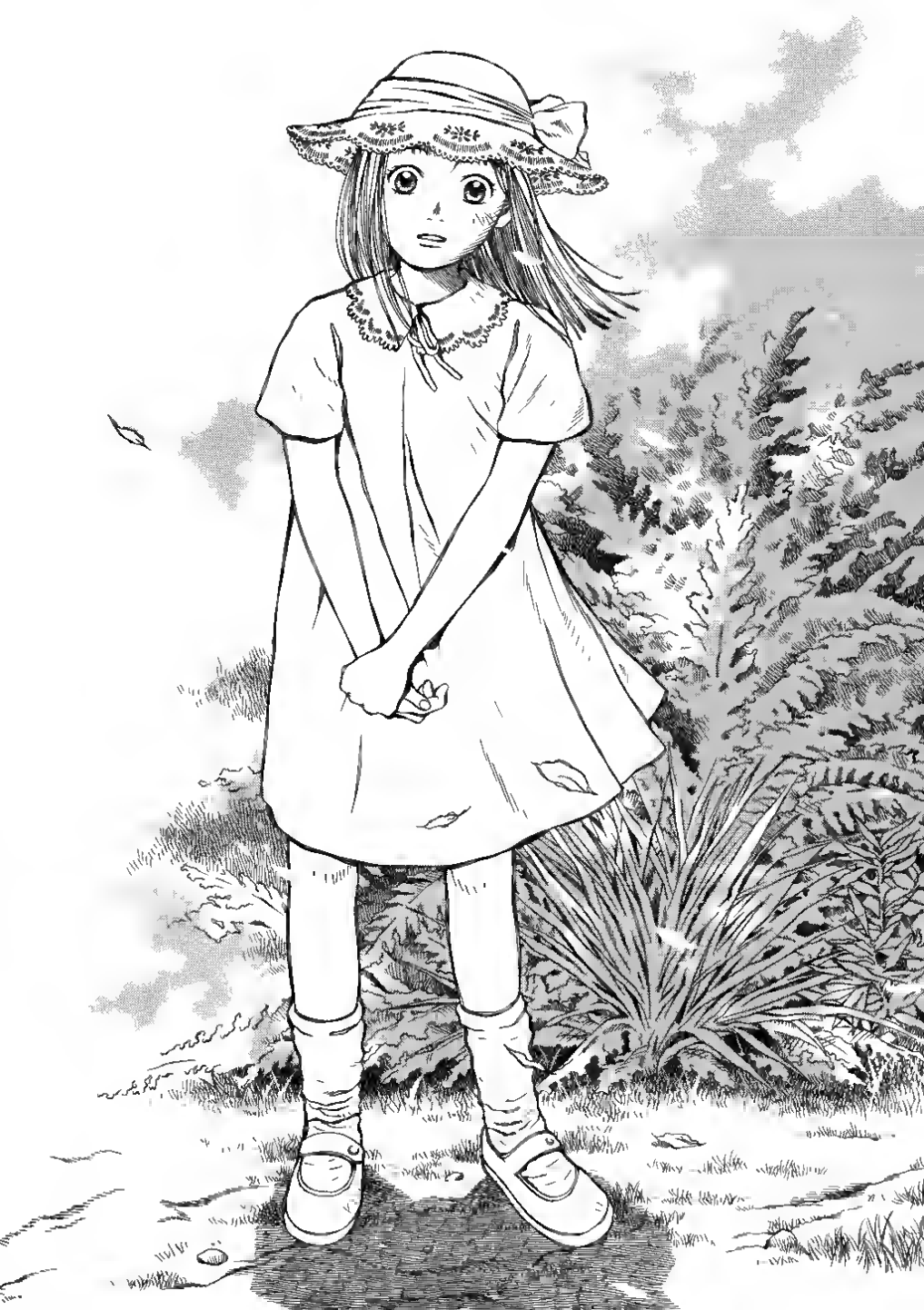
CHINATSU'S VOICE

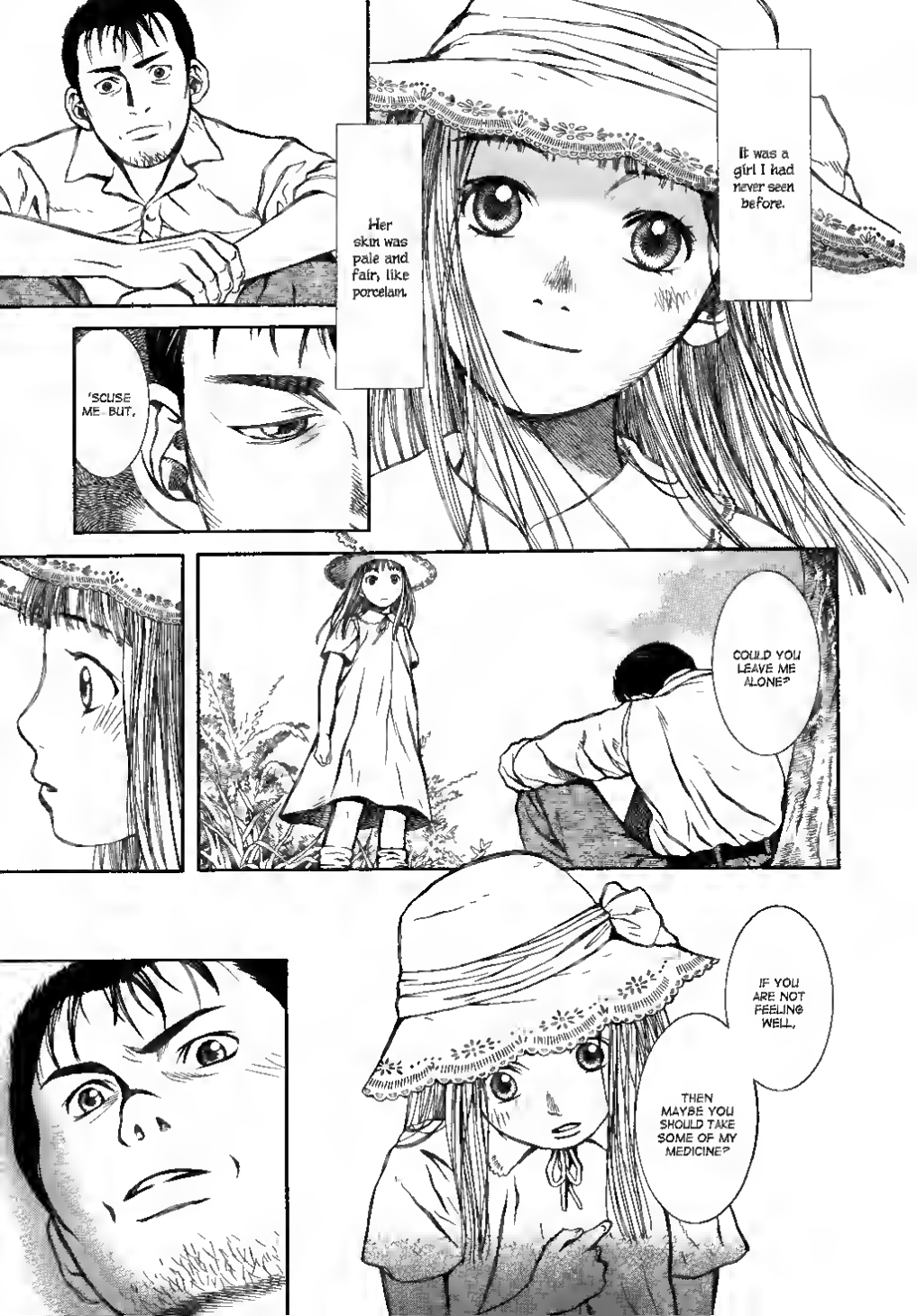
CHAPTER 11 - PINK SHELL
THAT-
THAT MUST'VE BEEN ABOUT THIRTY YEARS AGO.
IN THE EARLY SUMMER..
HERE.
THIS TREE,
IT WAS RIGHT UNDER THIS TREE.

CHAPTER 11 - PINK SHELL

THROUGHOUT OUR LIVES, THERE ARE MANY TIMES WHEN THE DESPAIR IS SO GREAT THAT WE WISH FOR DEATH.
ONE OF MY EYES WAS BLINDED AFTER MY BROTHER DIED IN THAT AIR RAID
AND THE OTHER WHEN MY WIFE FELL ILL.

MY SON WAS STILL JUST A CHILD,
SO I WAS COMPLETELY AT A LOSS.
THERE I WAS, SITTING RIGHT HERE UNDER THIS TREE,
PUZZLED...
SDSH
MISTER, WHAT'S THE MATTER?




It was a girl I had never seen before.
Her skin was pale and fair, like porcelain.
'SCUSE ME BUT,
COULD YOU LEAVE ME ALONE?
IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL,
THEN MAYBE YOU SHOULD TAKE SOME OF MY MEDICINE?

IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO GO OUTSIDE A BIT...
YEAH... BUT ACCORDING TO MY DOCTOR,
DO YOU HAVE SOME SORT OF HEALTH PROBLEM?
...GIRLY,
IT'S A BIT BIG THOUGH, I WONDER IF IT LOOKS WEIRD
THOUGH I'M NOT ALLOWED TO TAKE THIS HAT OFF WHILE THE SUN'S UP
REALLY?!
IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU
NOT AT ALL

Wheeee!
Hihihi!
She was almost like a fairy dressed in white, prancing about on the grass.
ARE YOU OKAY?!

I'M FINE SEEMS I'VE BEEN RUNNING AROUND A BIT TOO MUCH
HAH
UNCLE...?
CHRIST...
HAVING A DISEASE
EVEN THIS SMALL GIRL

IF ONLY I WAS THE ONE WHO WAS SICK. I WOULD DIE WITH NO REGRETS.
THAT DOES IT...
... D-
SHSHHH
DON'T SAY THAT!
DON'T DIE!
DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT SUCH A THING!

That's when it struck me.
Even this girl is fighting her own way, with her body as the stake.
More than anyone, she wishes to live.

PINKY PROMISE.
I'M SORRY
I WON'T SAY IT AGAIN.
REALLY?!
YOU SEE, MY MOTHER,
WHEN SHE WAS A BIT OLDER THAN I AM,
Is what she said.

WHEN JAPAN WAS FIGHTING AND SUCH...
EVERYONE WAS *REALLY* TENSED UP, SHE SAID.
THERE WERE NO BIRTHDAY PRESENTS
AND IF YOU TRIED BEING FRIENDLY, NO ONE WOULD RESPOND
EVERYONE JUST SAID *"FOR THE SAKE OF THE COUNTRY"* IN CHORUS
EVERY TIME MOTHER HEARD THAT...
SHE SAID IT WAS JUST *STUPID*

"LIVE OUT YOUR LIFE. LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST."
THAT WAS MY MOTHER'S FAVOURITE PHRASE

I BETTER START HEADING HOME, OR MOTHER WILL BE ANGRY...
SEE YOU, UNCLE
WAIT A SEC, WILL YA?
I'LL GIVE THESE TO YOU!
They were small, pink shells that had been found on the beach.
Wooow!
THEY'RE SO SMALL AND PRETTY!
WHAT A NICE COLOUR!

THANK YOU SO MUCH, UNCLE!
I REALLY LIKE THEM
THIS IS WAY BETTER THAN DOLLS AND CANDY
Oh NO... I'VE GOT NOTHING TO GIVE YOU...
DON'T WORRY BOUT IT.
I GOT IT! I'LL SING A SONG FOR YOU!
SING?
WHEN I'M BORED I USUALLY SIT ON MY BED AND MAKE SONGS.

THIS IS MY LATEST ONE,
AND ALSO ONE OF MY FAVOURITES
Her voice-
Ahh.

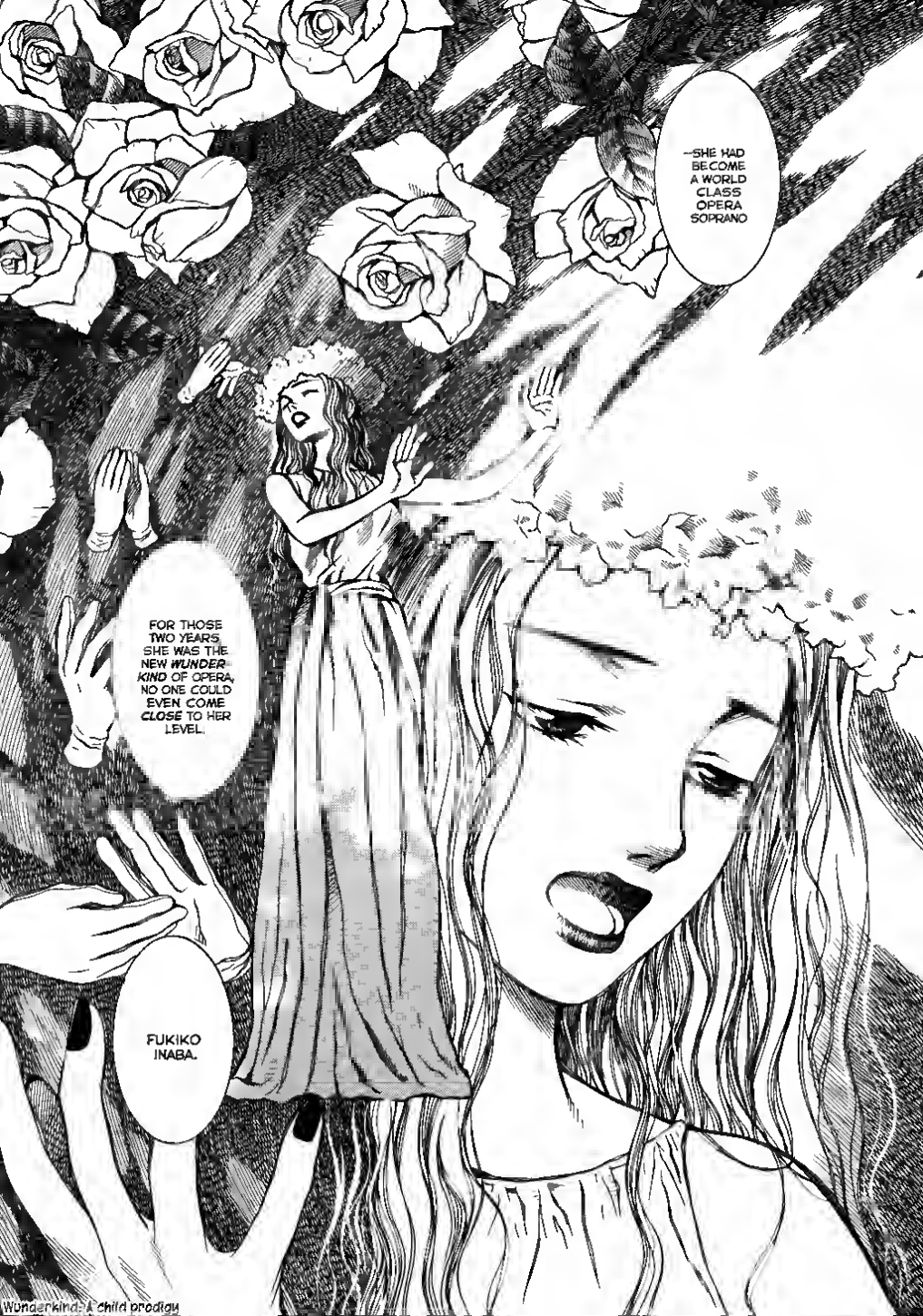
HER VOICE
BECAME ONE
WITH THE
WIND...

LISTENING TO HER VOICE, I LOST ALL SENSE OF TIME.
AND AS SOON AS I LOOKED AGAIN, THE GIRL WAS GONE.

I NEVER LOOKED INTO *WHO* SHE REALLY WAS.
BUT THE NEW-FOUND SILENCE WAS LIKE A VOID IN MY CHEST.
AND THEN--
--QUITE SOME YEARS PASSED BY.
SOMETIMES I TURNED ON THE RADIO, AND THERE WAS THIS VOICE WHICH *FILLED* THE AIR.
IT ALWAYS TOUCHED ME DEEPLY.

I REALIZED RIGHT AWAY,
EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS NOW AN ADULT.
THAT WAS *HER* VOICE...

A NUMBER OF YEARS EARLIER--


—SHE HAD BECOME A WORLD CLASS OPERA SOPRANO
FOR THOSE TWO YEARS SHE WAS THE NEW *WUNDERKIND* OF OPERA, NO ONE COULD EVEN COME *CLOSE* TO HER LEVEL.
FUKIKO INABA.

Wunderkind: A child prodigy

SHE'S YOUR—
--MOTHER, ISN'T SHE?

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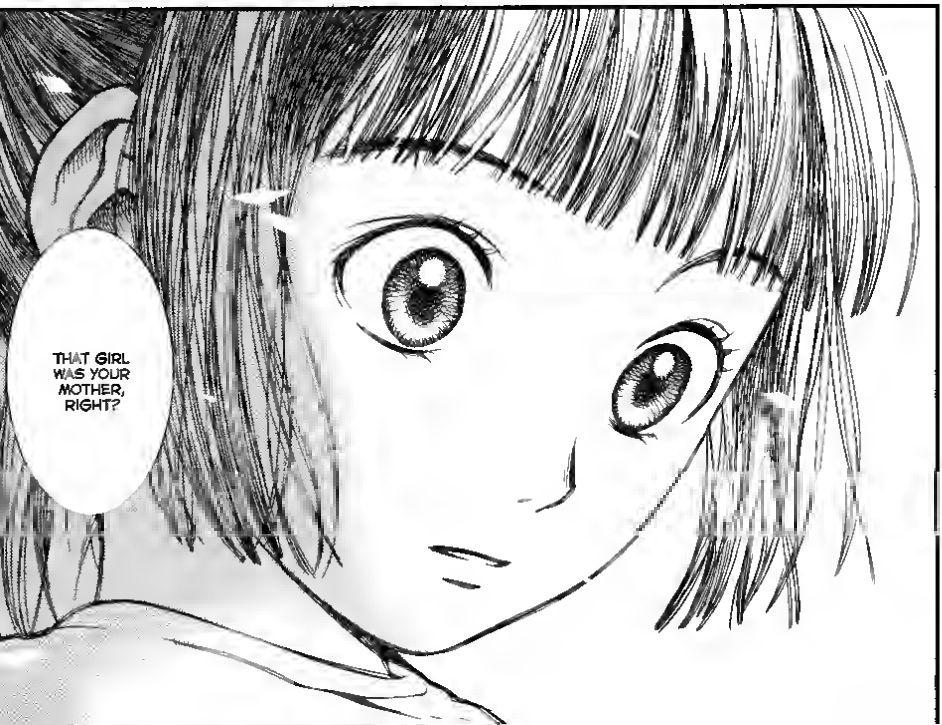
CHINATSU'S VOICE

THE UNRIVALED SOPRANO GENIUS,
FUKIKO INABA.
CH-12 - MOTHER'S SONG

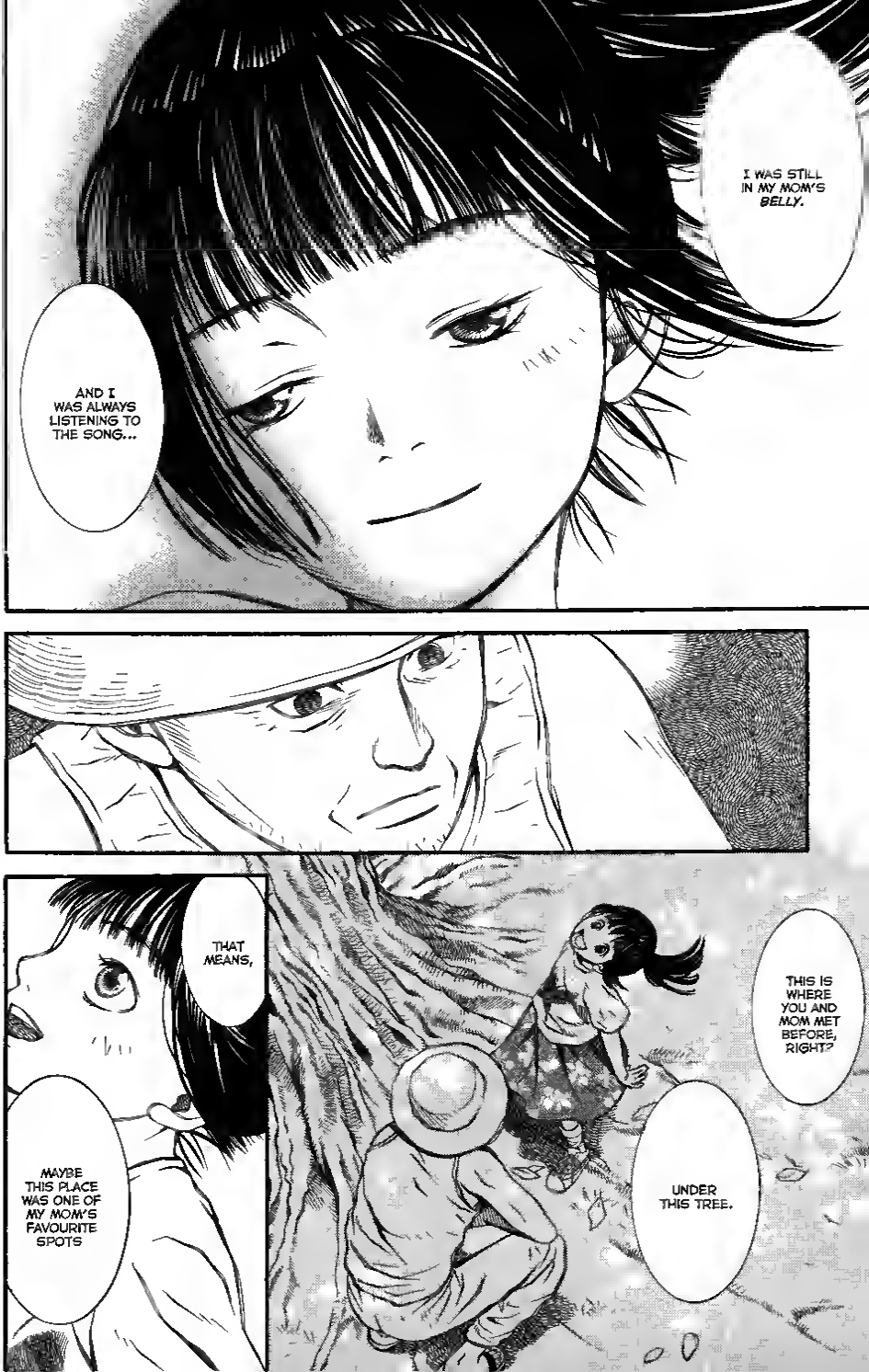

THAT GIRL WAS YOUR MOTHER, RIGHT?

CHAPTER 12 : MOTHER'S SONG

... UNCLE,
YOU'VE MET MY MOTHER?
WAAAH!!

WHEE
HI-HI-
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER EXCEPT IN PICTURES.
I MEAN,
THAT MUST'VE BEEN NICE.

I'VE TRIED TALKING TO HER, BUT I CAN ONLY SEE HER SMILING FACE...
I OFTEN SING THIS SONG.
IT'S ONE MY MOTHER WROTE HERSELF.
AND THEY SAY IT'S BOTH OUR FAVOURITE SONG.
AUNTIE WAS KIND OF SHOCKED HEARING *ME* SING IT,
SINCE I'VE NEVER *MET* MY MOM. BUT *I* KNOW WHY I KNOW IT.
WHEN I HEARD THIS SONG,


I WAS STILL IN MY MOM'S BELLY.
AND I WAS ALWAYS LISTENING TO THE SONG...
THIS IS WHERE YOU AND MOM MET BEFORE, RIGHT?
UNDER THIS TREE.
THAT MEANS,
MAYBE THIS PLACE WAS ONE OF MY MOM'S FAVOURITE SPOTS

MAYBE RIGHT WHERE I'M STANDING--
--IS WHERE MOM STOOD WAY BACK THEN, AND GAZED AT THIS BEAUTIFUL VIEW.
I'M STILL SMALL, BUT ONE DAY...
YEAH, ONE DAY FOR SURE...

I *WILL* FIND MY MOM...

YOU KNOW, I BELIEVE.
THAT I'LL MEET HER, ONE DAY..
Oh, RIGHT!
CHARM
THIS... I THINK IT'S A CHARM MY MOM ALWAYS HAD WITH HER.
IT WAS ALWAYS IN HER INNER POCKET.
AND IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY,
THERE SHOULD BE SOME SMALL PINK SHELLS IN HERE..

YEAH, TWO OF THEM..
I'LL GIVE THESE TO YOU
Wooow! THEY'RE SO PRETTY THANK YOU SO MUCH, UNCLE!

CH-CHINATSU...
COULD YOU HAND ME THOSE?
IF I CAN TOUCH THEM,
THEN MAYBE--
Hmm...
I'M SURE OF IT, THESE ARE--

... UNCLE,
DO YOU WANNA MEET MOM AGAIN, TOO?

YOU'LL MEET HER ONE DAY FOR SURE.
SO PROMISE ME.
PROMISE ME YOU'LL NEVER SAY YOU WANT TO DIE.
... OKAY.
I PROMISE.
DON'T DIE!

PINKY PROMISE.

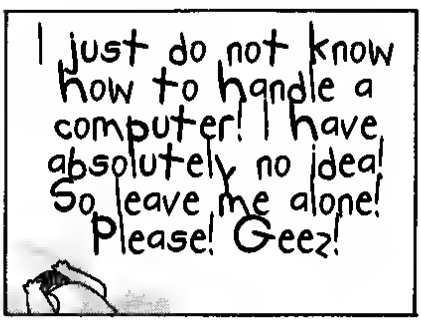
Ah!

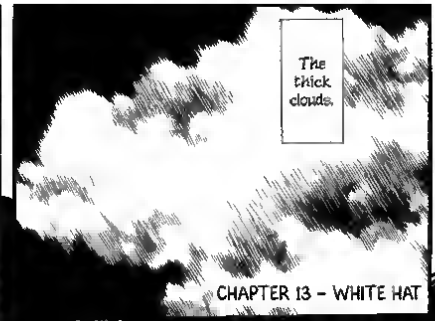
GRAMPS! CHINATSUUU!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING *HERE*?!

Kitagawas diary #4 - I want to see it as well

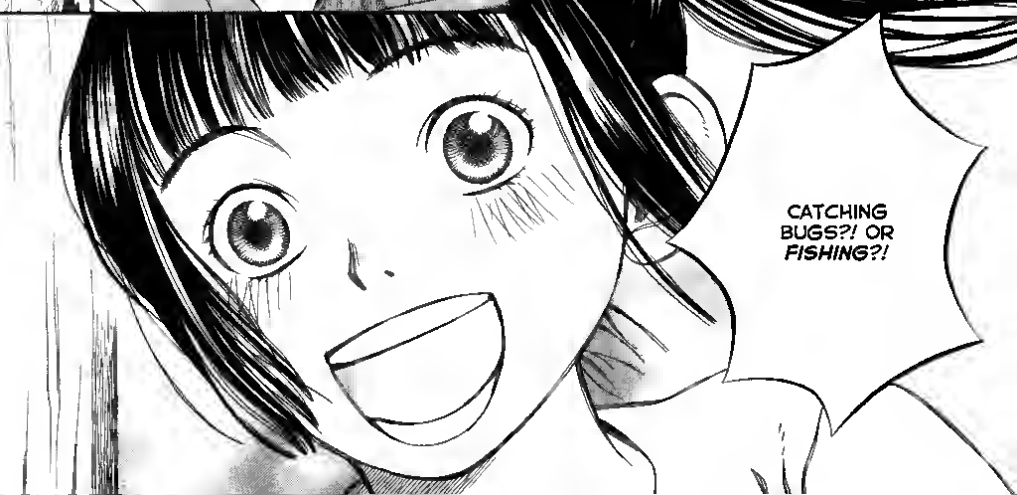
I could do things in colour and everything, and if I just tried it out I would become really fond of it. Or so they think
My friends often wonder why I don't use the computer more in my work when I have a computer at home already.

If I do not draw it with my own fingertips I'm unable to incorporate any real sentiment into my drawings
At those times I keep repeating my line



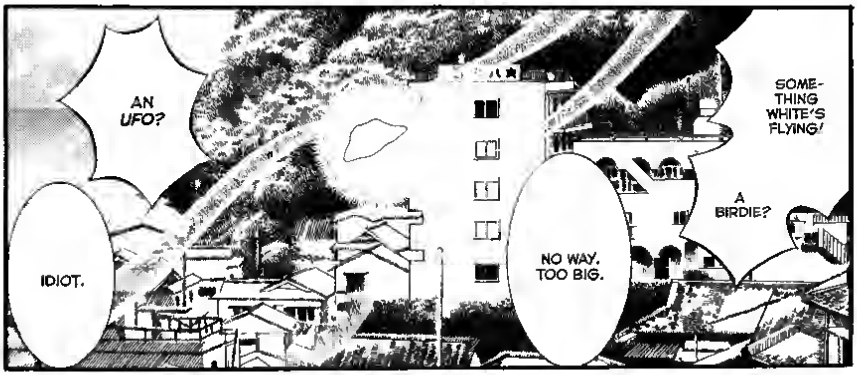


CHAPTER 13 - WHITE HAT



CHAPTER 13 - WHITE HAT

FUYUKI, LOOK AT THAT!
?

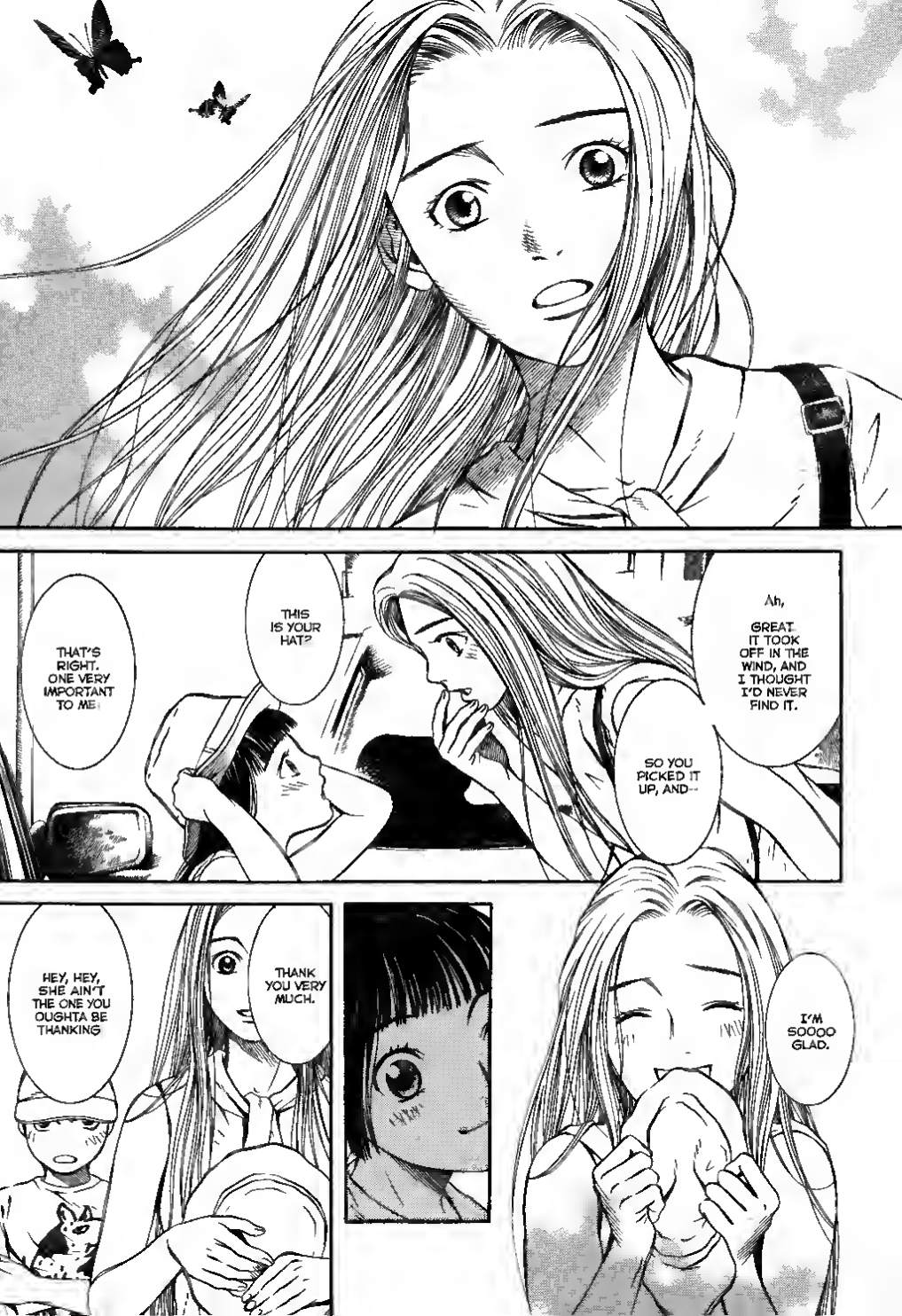

AN UFO?
IDIOT.
NO WAY. TOO BIG.
A BIRDIE?
SOME-THING WHITE'S FLYING!

IT'S FLYING TOWARDS THE SEA!
HUP!

IT'S A HAT!

THUD
OOF!
I GOT IT!
FAFF
FUYUKI, YOU OKAY?!
Hehehe! ♡
GEHE

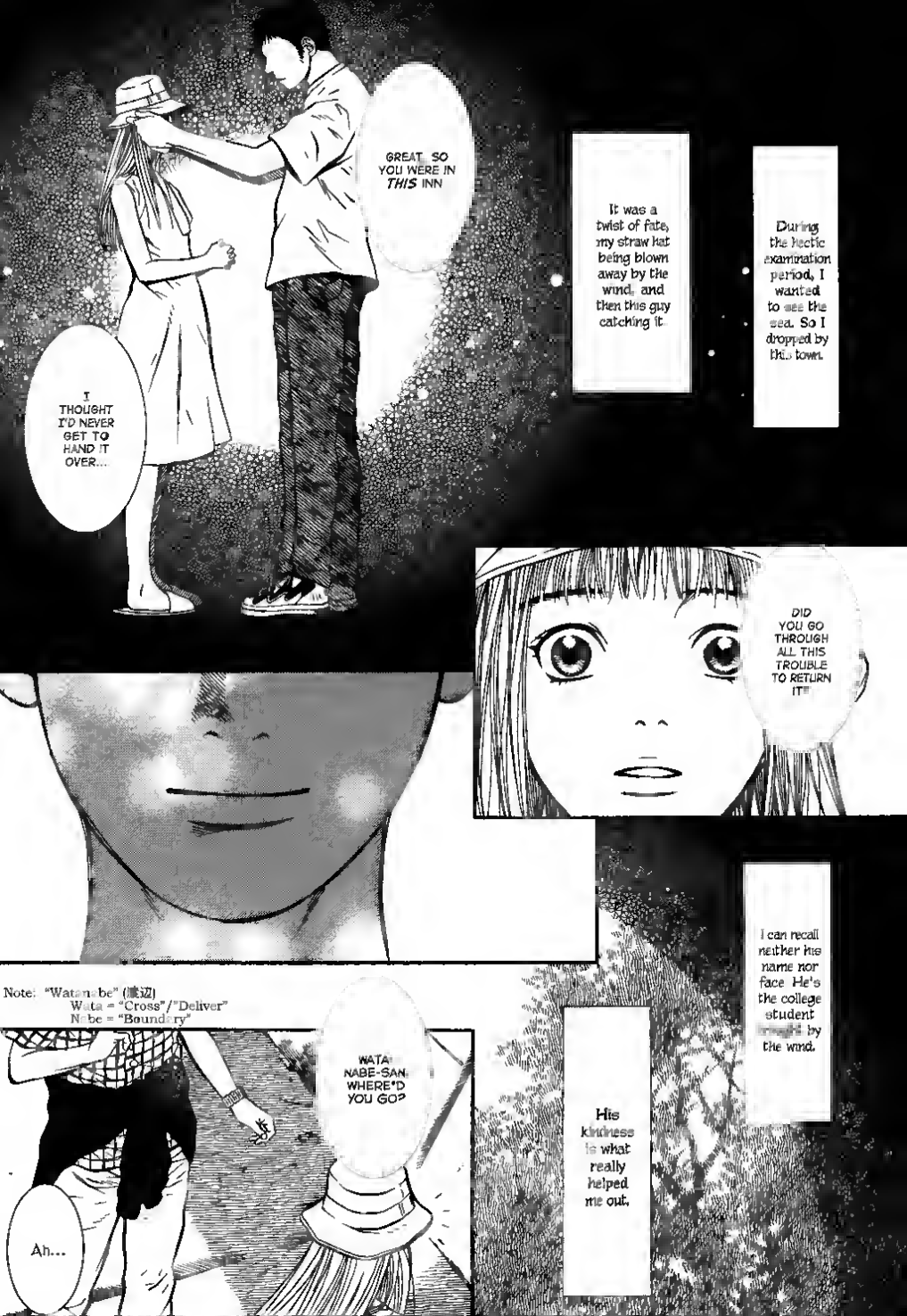
HERE, TRY IT ON.
Eh? BUT IT'S A BIT BIG. .
-Bah- DOESN'T MATTER MUCH.
Ehehe, HOW IS IT...?
THAT'S PRETTY NICE.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ON, TOO?
BUT ISN'T IT FOR GIRLS?
THAT HAT!


Ah, GREAT. IT TOOK OFF IN THE WIND, AND I THOUGHT I'D NEVER FIND IT.
THIS IS YOUR HAT?
THAT'S RIGHT. ONE VERY IMPORTANT TO ME!
SO YOU PICKED IT UP, AND--
I'M SOOOO GLAD.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HEY, HEY, SHE AIN'T THE ONE YOU OUGHTA BE THANKING

IF IT WASN'T FOR ME, THAT HAT WOULD BE FLOATING OUT TO SEA
Oh.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, THEN...
TEHEHE
NAW, NO BIGGIE...
...
HEY,
YOU TWO LIVE HERE, RIGHT?
DO YOU TWO KNOW ANYONE LIVING HERE WHO'S ABOUT THE AGE OF A COLLEGE STUDENT?
COLLEGE STUDENT?

I SEE...
MAYBE HE WASN'T A LOCAL, THEN...
I DUNNO. THERE'S JUST OLD PEOPLE AND OTHER KIDS LIVING HERE, I'D GUESS.
RIGHT, CHINATSU?
T-THAT SO?
Ah, I JUST REMEMBERED.
THAT GIRL CAME HERE LAST SUMMER, TOO
SHE'D ALWAYS WALK ALONG THE SEA, WEARING THAT SAME HAT AND ONE PIECE DRESS.

IT AIN'T OFTEN SUCH A PRETTY GIRL COMES HERE ..
WOOW!
AWE-SOME!
JUST NOW, THERE WAS A FLYING FISH OUT THERE!
ARE YOU EVEN LISTEN-ING...?
Three years ago, summer break for the 3rd years
DOES THIS--
--BELONG TO YOU?
Eh...?


During the hectic examination period, I wanted to see the sea. So I dropped by this town.
It was a twist of fate, my straw hat being blown away by the wind, and then this guy catching it.
GREAT. SO YOU WERE IN THIS INN
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER GET TO HAND IT OVER...
DID YOU GO THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE TO RETURN IT?
I can recall neither his name nor face. He's the college student blown by the wind.
His kindness is what really helped me out.
WATA-NABE-SAN. WHERE'D YOU GO?
Ah...

Note: "Watanabe" (渡辺)
Wata = "Cross"/"Deliver"
Nabe = "Boundary"

Note: "Maezaki" (前崎)
Mae = "before"
Zaki = "cape/spit"
MAEZAKI-KUN.
Ahh, IT REALLY IS NICE TO GO TO A HOT SPRING THIS TIME OF SUMMER.
CHEERS
Our university circle is staying in a Japanese summer inn.
The one who came up with the location was me.
AHAHAHA
I came here alone last year in search of "him."
If I could just somehow meet with him once again...
I'd be able to confirm my feelings, or so I've thought all this time
But how...?

What a wondrous voice
Where is it coming from?
The girl from yest--
YOU SURE ARE GOOD AT SINGING, AREN'T YOU?
ドドド

WOULD YOU MIND TALKING FOR A WHILE?
I BOUGHT SOME DRINKS.
HEY, DON'T PRAISE HER, OR SHE'LL BE ALL HYPED UP!
Ehehe, THANKS. ♡
SO, WHAT MIGHT YOUR NAME BE?
I AM FUYUKI!
AND SHE'S CHINATSU!
Hmmm? WHAT A COINCIDENCE. MY NAME'S HARUMI.
WE ALL SEEM TO HAVE A SEASON IN OUR NAME.

Fuyuki [冬紀]
冬 = Winter
紀 = Period

Chinatsu [千夏]
千 = thousand
夏 = summer

Harumi [春実]
春 = spring
実 = truth

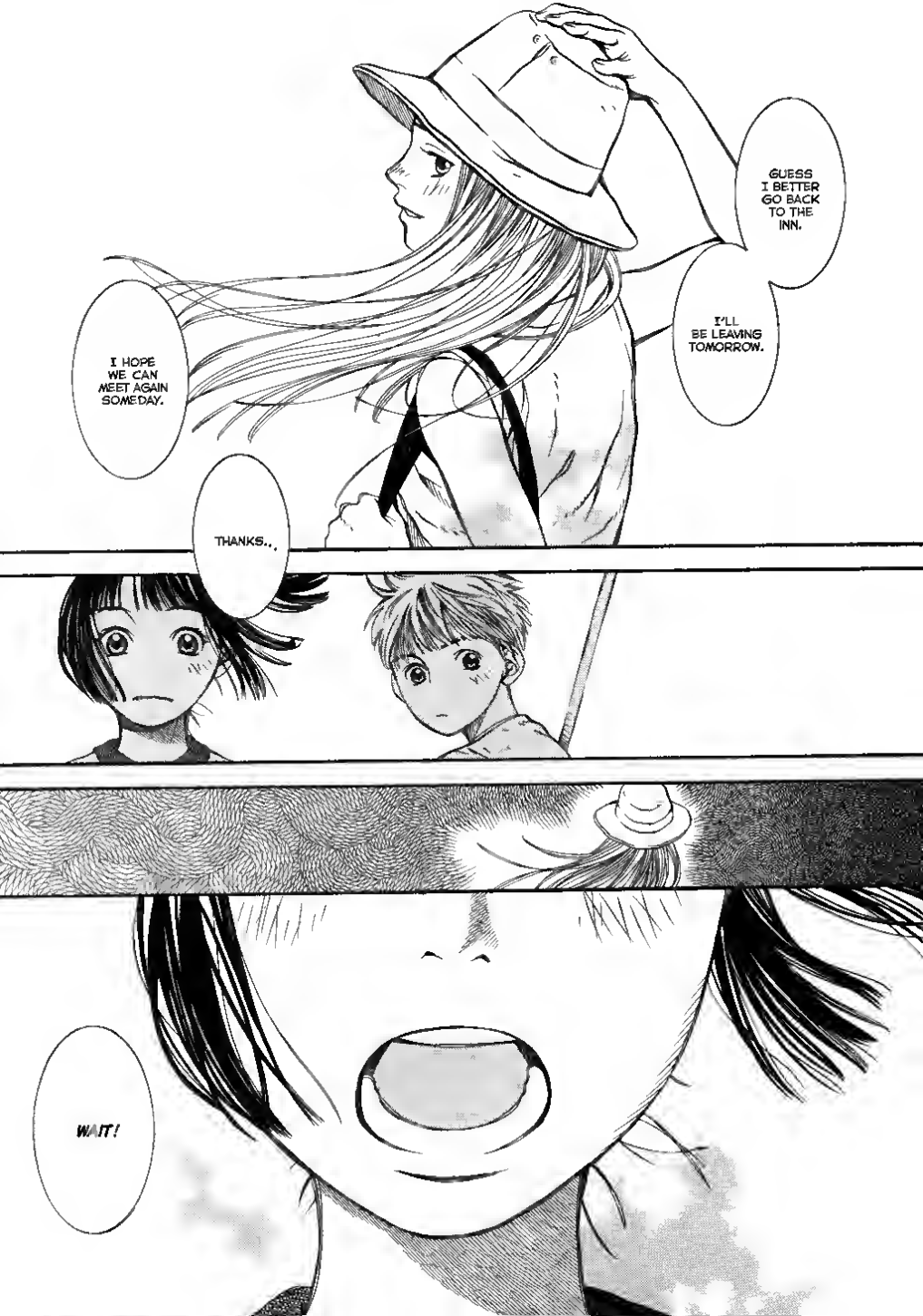
Ah, IF YOU'RE DONE, MIND GIVING ME THE CAN?
Oh, BUT THE RECYCLE BIN'S OVER THERE...
THANK YOU SOOO MUCH
YOU'RE REALLY KIND.
THE COLA TASTED GOOD
YEAH, I DO. AND YOU?
HARUMI LIKES TO COLLECT THINGS?
Hmmm?
NO, NO, I'D LIKE TO HAVE THEM AS MEMENTOS.
YUP, ME TOO.
LIKE COOKIE BOXES OR RIBBONS AND STUFF.
AND PRETTY CANDY WRAPPERS.
BUT, YOU KNOW,
AFTER A WHILE I CAN'T FIND THE STUFF I'M LOOKING FOR.
RIGHT, RIGHT, BEEN THERE.

SO WHEN AUNTIE TELLS ME TO TIDY UP, I THROW AWAY THE THINGS I PROBABLY WON'T NEED.
OH? THAT'S SMART OF YOU.
ANYHOW, HOW'D IT GO YESTERDAY, HARUMI?
DID YOU FIND THE PERSON YOU WERE LOOKING FOR?
NAH,
BUT I GUESS THERE IS NO HELPING IT
NOR DO I KNOW HIS NAME.
SINCE I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER HOW HE LOOKS LIKE ANY LONGER
?
Today is the last day.
And it still seems hopeless.

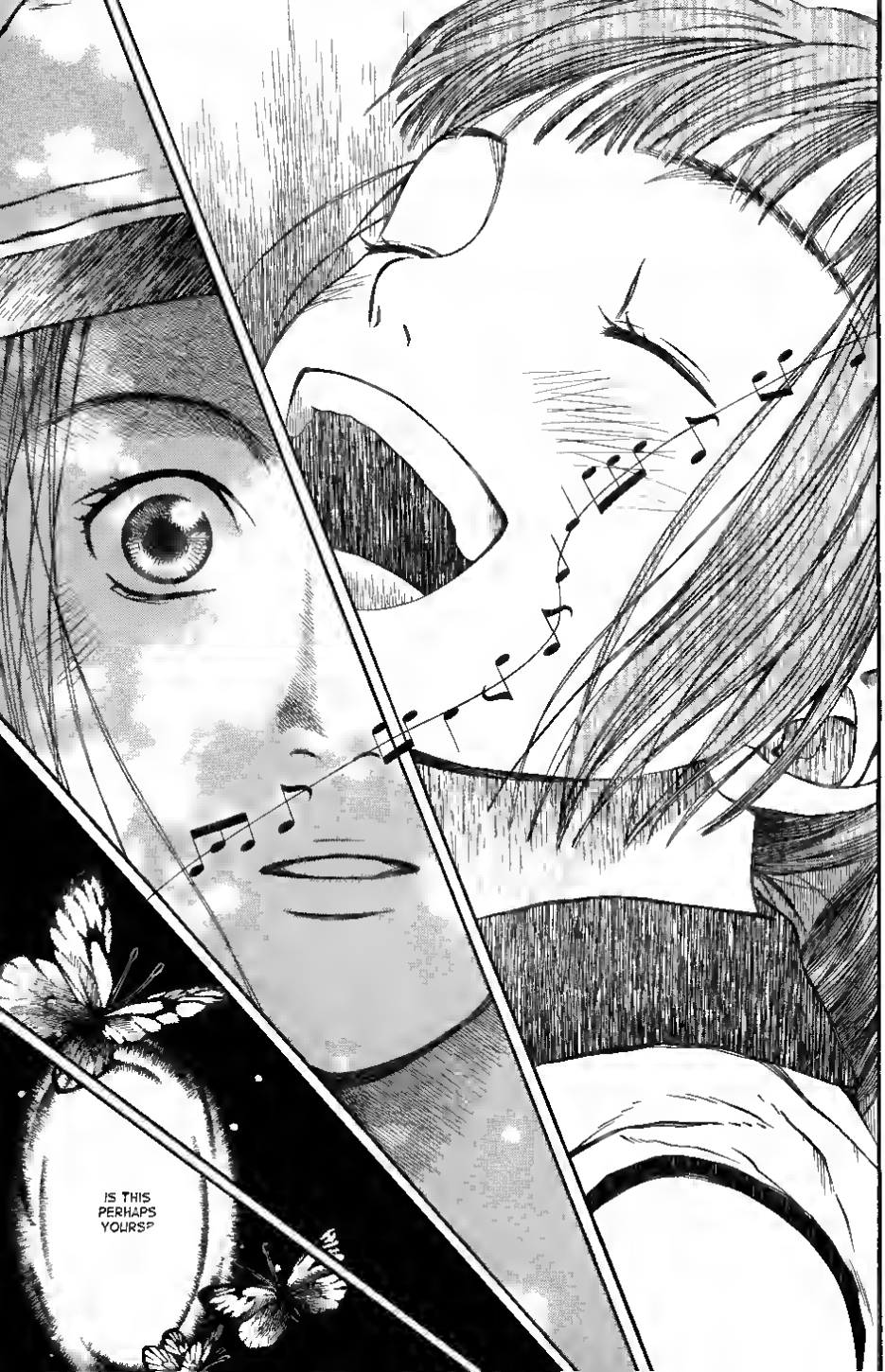
It is as if a part of me was frozen, since that day two years ago.
I...
I...

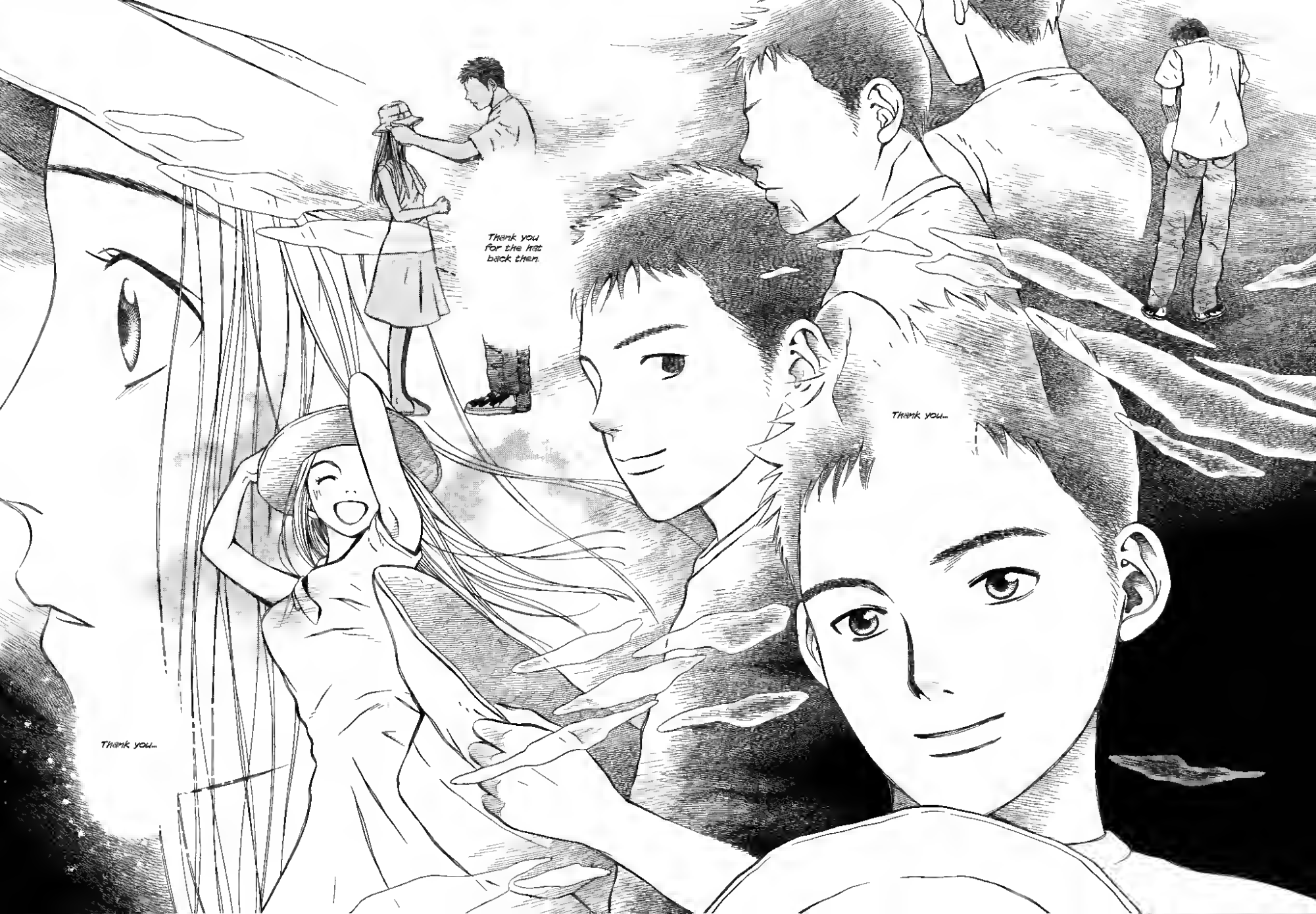
Prohibited to gather shellfish inside the wildlife sanctuary

THE SUN'S SETTING SOON...
HARUMI-SAN?
Hehe, I KNEW IT.
I... I'M JUST SILLY, AREN'T I?
I KNOW THERE'S NO MEANING IN DOING ALL THIS.
BUT I CAN'T HELP THINKING HE'S ALSO OUT THERE, TRYING NOT TO FORGET ME...


GUESS I BETTER GO BACK TO THE INN.
I'LL BE LEAVING TOMORROW.
I HOPE WE CAN MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY.
THANKS..
WAIT!

BEFORE YOU LEAVE, I WANT TO GIVE YOU A SONG AS PRESENT.
SO YOU'LL CHEER UP, OKAY?
A SONG ...?
DIDN'T YOU SAY I'M GOOD AT SINGING?
THANK YOU. I'D LOVE TO LISTEN.


IS THIS PERHAPS YOURS?


Thank you for the hat back then.
Thank you...
Thank you...

Ahh... I'M SORRY.
SO THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE!
WE WERE DEAD WORRIED, 'CUS THEY COULDN'T FIND YOU ANYWHERE.
WATANABE-SAN!

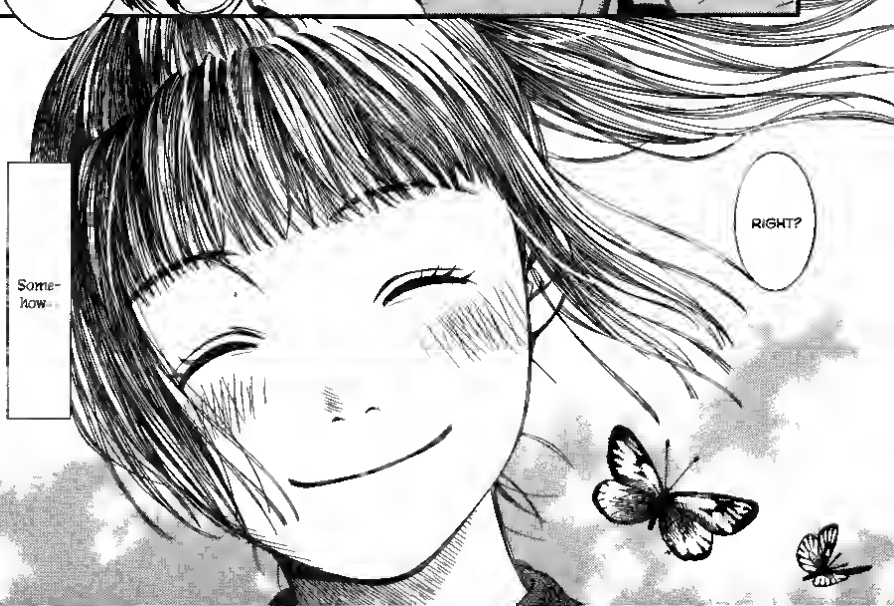
I JUST REMEMBERED!
WHEN I HEARD YOUR SINGING, HIS FACE JUST POPPED UP IN FRONT OF ME...!
?
I SIMPLY FELT MORE AT EASE THAN EVER BEFORE...
I THANKED HIM FOR THE HAT, IN MY HEART.
AND THEN, SOME-HOW,
MAEZAKI-KUN, ABOUT THAT THING BEFORE...
Ah..

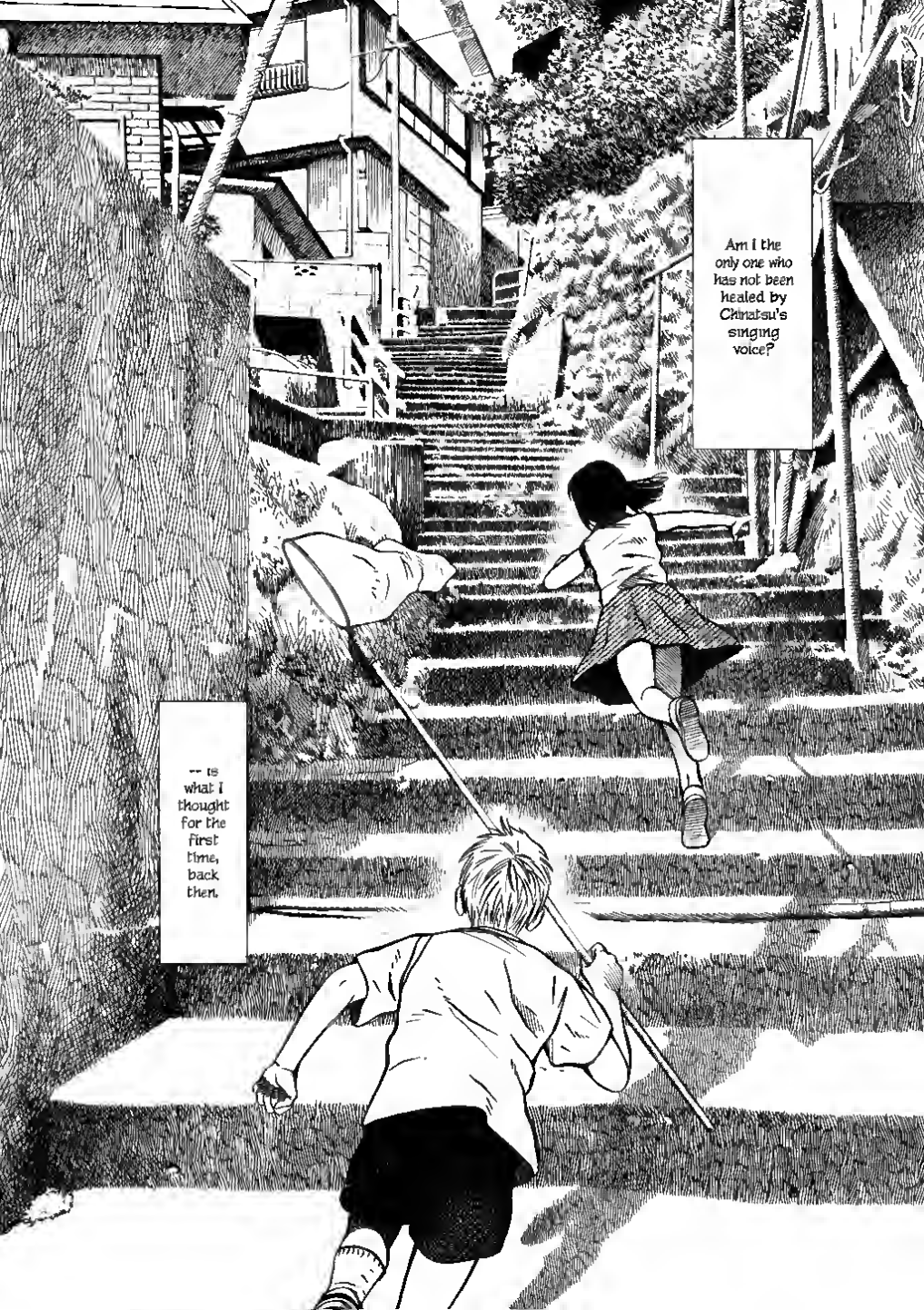
E-eeeh?
S-SO, THEN--
BUT IF YOU'RE ALL RIGHT WITH ME, THEN--
I'M SORRY FOR NOT ANSWERING CLEARLY.
KYAAA!
BYO
IT'S ALL RIGHT! DON'T ■OTHER!
GUESS I'LL JUST SWIM.
CRAP. WHAT TO DO? THIS TIME IT'LL FLY INTO THE OCEAN FOR SURE.
DAMNIT, THAT HAT AGAIN!

I'VE ALREADY LET GO OF IT...

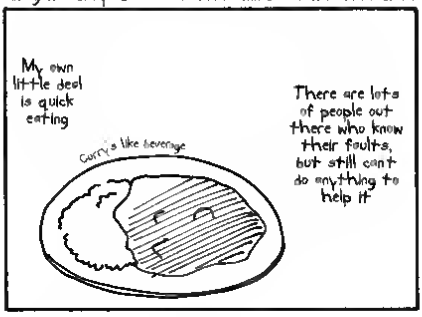
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND GIRLS AT ALL...
Aw, WHAT A WASTE.
I MEAN, WHY?!
IT WAS SO DAMN IMPORTANT YESTERDAY, RIGHT?

WHO CARES? YOU HAVE ME, FUYUKI!
AND SHE EVEN HAD A BOYFRIEND WITH HER.


Some-how...
RIGHT?

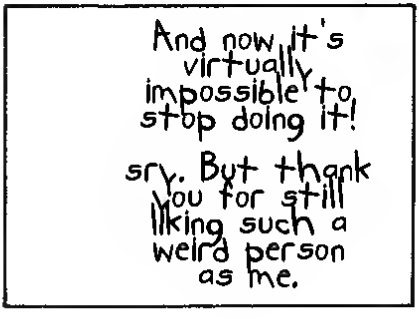

Am I the only one who has not been healed by Chinatsu's singing voice?
-- is what I thought for the first time, back then.

Kitagawas diary #5 - Seems there will be a new Hotmen drama

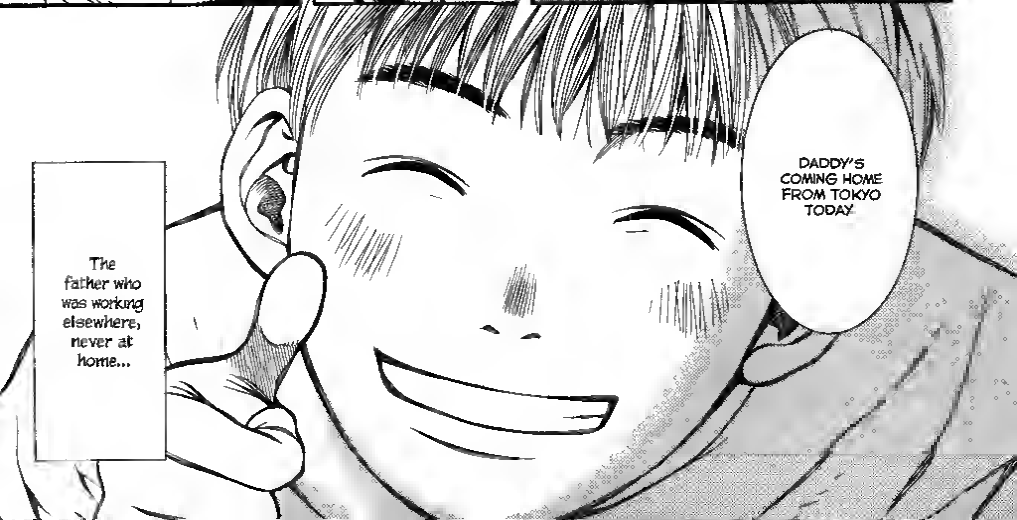

My own little deal is quick eating
Curry is like beverage
There are lots of people out there who know their faults, but still can't do anything to help it

It's not like I'm in a hurry or anything, but I still can't help it.
fuu
For example when there happens to be gyuudon on the table, I can eat at least two bowls while all others have just had one. Sometimes I can even stuff myself with three!

So, I got it into my system from my mom. So now it's kind of natural for me to eat like this.
It will go bad if you let it go cold. So hurry along and eat now.
In my younger days



CHAPTER 14 ~ DAD



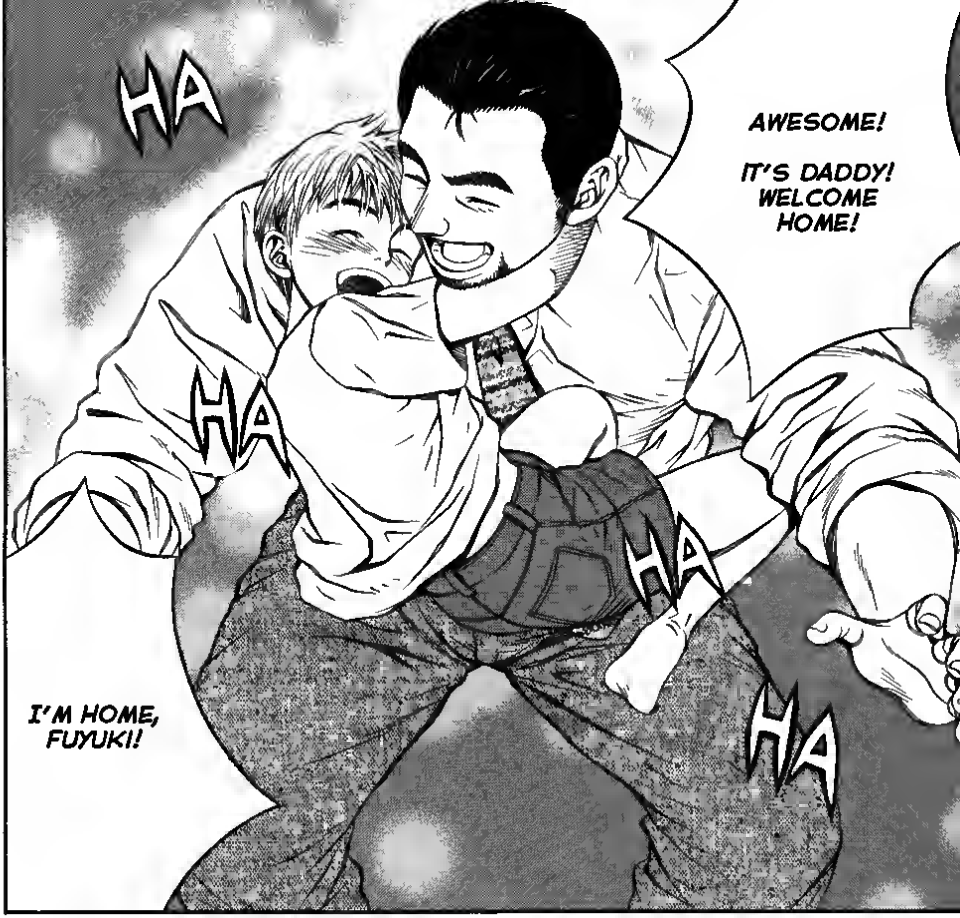
CHAPTER 14 - DAD

WHEN DADDY COMES HOME TODAY, I'M GONNA SCARE THE WITS OUT OF HIM!
I BORROWED IT FROM A FRIEND OF MINE
WHAT'S WITH THE MASK?
ugaah!
WELL? SCARY?
Y-YEAH ...
Well not really...
I'M HOOOME!

FUYUKI, COULD YOU AT LEAST DO YOUR HOMEWORK BEFORE SUMMER BREAK IS OVER...?
HEY, GRAMPS, I'M SCARY, RIGHT?
HERE, HAVE SOME.
KNKK
SORRY TO INTERRUPT BUT HERE ARE SOME DRINKS
Eeh?
BESIDES, NEITHER ME NOR NOBUO WOULD BE SCARED OF THAT.
THOUGH I KINDA LIKE STRAWBERRY BETTER
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL COLOUR! THANKS!
DON'T YOU COMPLAIN
SUPER!
MELON SODA!

YOU'RE REALLY PRETTY, MA'AM.
PRETTY? WHICH PART OF HER?
HMPHR
YOUR DAD SURE IS LATE.
:HUPP:
GOTTA GO TO THE TOILET, NEED TO TAKE A LEAK.
I think it's waaay scary, though
Hm? Is someone using the toilet?
KDIK

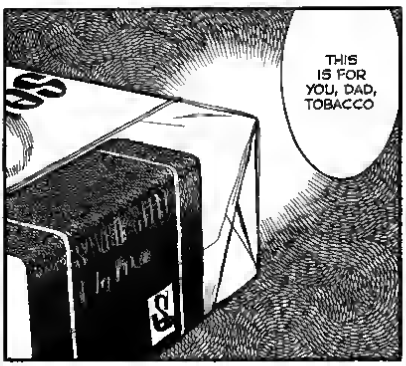
ARRGH
BAHAHA
FUYUKI?!
BOOH!
FSSSSHH


HA
HA
HA
HA
AWESOME!
IT'S DADDY! WELCOME HOME!
I'M HOME, FUYUKI!

...
Hm? DO YOU FEEL SOMETHING KIND OF WARM?

JUST WHEN YOU WERE ABOUT TO STEP IN, I WENT OUT.
REALLY?
SO WE WERE THINKING OF DOING THE SAME THING?
I GOT SO SCARED I PEED MY PANTS, Y'KNOW!
AND SHE IS?
THAT'S CHINATSU, SHE HAS RECENTLY MOVED HERE
NICE TO MEET YOU.
THAT SO? CHINATSU, huh?
A REAL CUTIE
HAVE YOU KISSED YET?
AS IF!
NO WAY!
DEAR!
GEH

R-RIGHT, LET'S OPEN SOME OF THEM PRESENTS!
...
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT
CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE LEARNING SUCH THINGS.
ALL RIGHT!
A PLASTIC MODEL!
THIS IS FOR YOU, FUYUKI.
MISTER,
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT IS WHAT FUYUKI WANTED?
YAA YA
SO COOL, I REALLY WANTED TO BUILD ONE OF THESE!

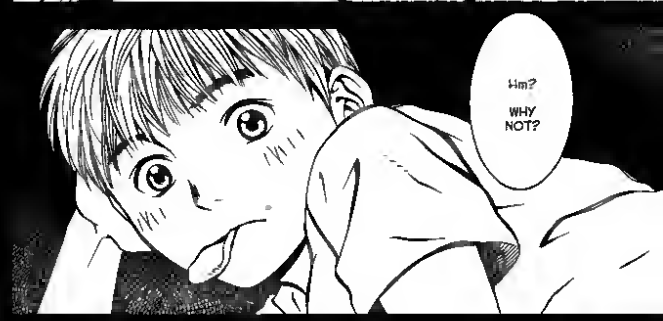


[Mayumi (真弓)
Ma (真) = true
Yumi (弓) – violin bow
– also as compound means "spindle tree"]

THANKS
KRHH
...
AND FOR YOU, BIBI, I HAVE SOME DRIED BONITO FLAKES
BURRR
ANYWAY, I'M OFF FOR SOME SHOPPING.
Sigh
The house'll probably calm down a bit when she's not here
HUM

I'LL BE HEADING BACK HOME NOW.
Ehh? ALREADY?
I'M REALLY SORRY, CHINATSU, BUT I DIDN'T GET ANYTHING FOR YOU.
D-DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
PLEASE KEEP ON TAKING CARE OF MY BOY.
UNCLE, LATER!
RIGHT LATER

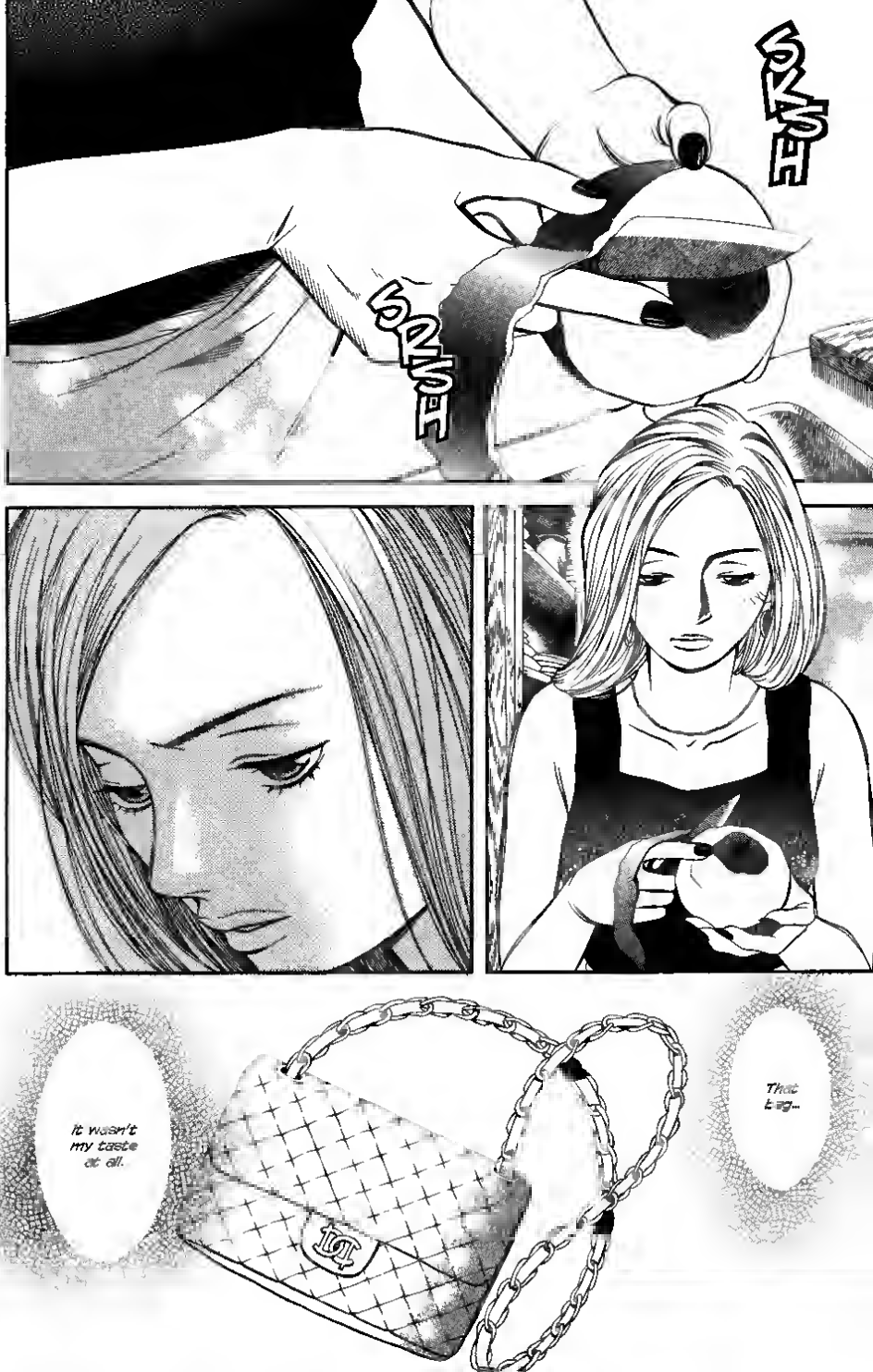
FUYUKI...
YOU OUGHT TO KNOW YOU SHOULDN'T INVITE CHINATSU OVER ON A DAY LIKE THIS


Hm?
WHY NOT?

YOU DON'T GET IT?
HAVE YOU HAVE NO TACT, BOY?

IS IT TASTY, MUKU-MUKU?
:Waff:
MUKU-MUKU,
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I WISH FOR THE MOST?
HRM?

I JUST KNOW ...
SINCE IT'S A PERSON SO CLOSE TO ME, I KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.
HAVING A KIND DAD AND MOM,
FUYUKI'S SO LUCKY ...


SKSH
SKSH
It wasn't my taste at all.
That bag...

Liar...

千夏のうた
CHINATSU'S VOICE

VRRR
VRRR
VRRR
Chinatsu always said that of all the seasons, summer is her favourite.
When you step outside, you feel yourself and everything around you warming up.
Almost like being embraced by someone.
Someone kind.
CH. 15 – MEMORY OF THE CITY
ALL RIGHT!
BSSH

CHAPTER 15 - MEMORY OF THE CITY

HEY, YOU GUYS!
IT'S TIME TO EAT!
REALLY?
YOU JUST NEED A BIT OF SKILL.
EVEN YOU CAN DO IT, CHINATSU.
Wow, YOUR DAD MADE ALL THIS, FUYUKI?!
YEAH, THE WAY THE DRIED SEAWEED'S ROLLED IS HIS STYLE
Hahaha, SO YOU NOTICED?
THESE HERE ARE SALMON, AND THOSE ARE PLUM.
Ahhh, BUT REALLY, WHAT GREAT WEATHER!
THE COUNTRY-SIDE JUST WASHES THE STRESS AWAY...

HEY,
WHY ISN'T FUYUKI'S MOM *HERE* TODAY?
MOM'S HAVING FRIENDS FROM TOKYO OVER
I SEE...
PUSH
SAVE
SEND

I-
I JUST THOUGHT THEY WERE BIG... AND STUFF.
WHAT'S UP, CHINATSU? YOU'VE BEEN STARING AT DADDY'S HANDS FOR A WHILE.
Ah...
MAYUMI!

Oh MY, IT'S BEEN SO LONG HOW'VE YOU BEEN?!
WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN OVER 8 YEARS!
HERE, IT'S YOUR OLD FAVOURITE, AOYAMA BEAR ROLL CAKE.
I'M SO GLAD!
I'LL GO CUT THE CAKE, WAIT A BIT.
FUYUKI-KUN MUST HAVE GROWN UP BY NOW, RIGHT? WHERE IS HE?
MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.
HEY, MAYUMI,
THEY'RE ALL OUT.
AREN'T THOSE CLOTHES KIND OF OVER-USED?
ZD

UNDERSTAND-ABLE THOUGH, LIVING IN THIS HILLY PLACE.
Ah, YOU CAN SKIP MY SLICE OF THE CAKE. I AM ON A DIET.
THIS PLACE IS GOOD.
JUST SQUAT DOWN.
HEY, DON'T TRY AND MAKE A GIRL DO STUFF LIKE THAT RIGHT AWAY.
SQUAT?!

A ROCK?!
YUP, A ROCK.
THINK OF YOURSELF LIKE A BIG ROCK IN THE STREAM.
Ehrm, NOT LIKE THAT
YOU GOT TO PUT SOME WEIGHT AGAINST THE STREAM.
Ahh, the skirt's in the water...
SO, PRETEND TO BE A ROCK,
AND THE FISHES WILL SWIM UP TO YOU, RESTING FROM THE RAPID STREAMS.
THE FISH REST?
DMP
GASP
Ah!

GREAT! NOW, CATCH IT!
SOME-THING JUST TOUCHED MY LEG!
Eh?!
Ah. Hmm?
Auuuu, I'M GETTING ALL WET!
Hahaha, THAT GIRL SURE IS SWEET...
ALL RIGHT, MAYBE I WILL GIVE IT A SHOT AS WELL.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, SO WE'LL SEE HOW IT GOES
SWPSWP
BUT MY FATHER TAUGHT ME THIS MANY TIMES TOO, WHEN I WAS YOUNG...
DADDY?!
Hrm
SHWP

PIECE OF CAKE!

TIME SURE FLIES...
IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS SINCE YOU GOT HITCHED, RIGHT, MAYUMI?
YOU WERE THE FIRST IN OUR SECTION WEREN'T YOU?
REALLY. I WAS SOOO SHOCKED.

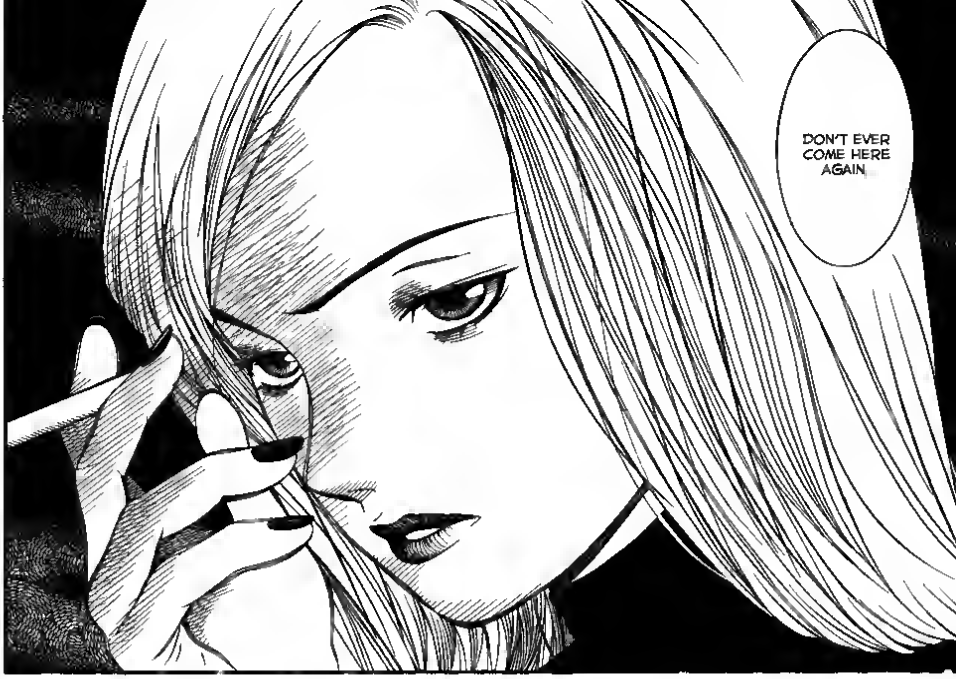
I WAS ONLY TWENTY-TWO BACK THEN
WHEN I THINK BACK NOW, I SEE I WAS BUT A CHILD.
HEY! LET'S TAKE THESE FISHES AND GIVE THEM TO FUYUKI'S MOM!
SINCE EVEN I FOUGHT HARD TO GET 'EM ALL
BY THE WAY, YOU HAVEN'T SEEN SASAKI FROM ADMINISTRATION IN A WHILE, RIGHT?
YOU KNOW SHE RECENTLY GOT MARRIED TO THE SON OF A COMPANY PRESIDENT?
HONESTLY, THAT LOOSE WOMAN. ANYONE BUT HER, YOU'D THINK.
SHE'S LIKE A GARBAGE SACK WITH JEWELS, ANYWAY.
ONLY MARRIED WEALTHY

HEY, DAD,
THAT CHINATSU'S FOLKS, WHAT'RE THEY LIKE?
MAYBE I SHOULD GO SAY HELLO...

NOBUO CHINATSU, SHE--
THERE'S ONE!

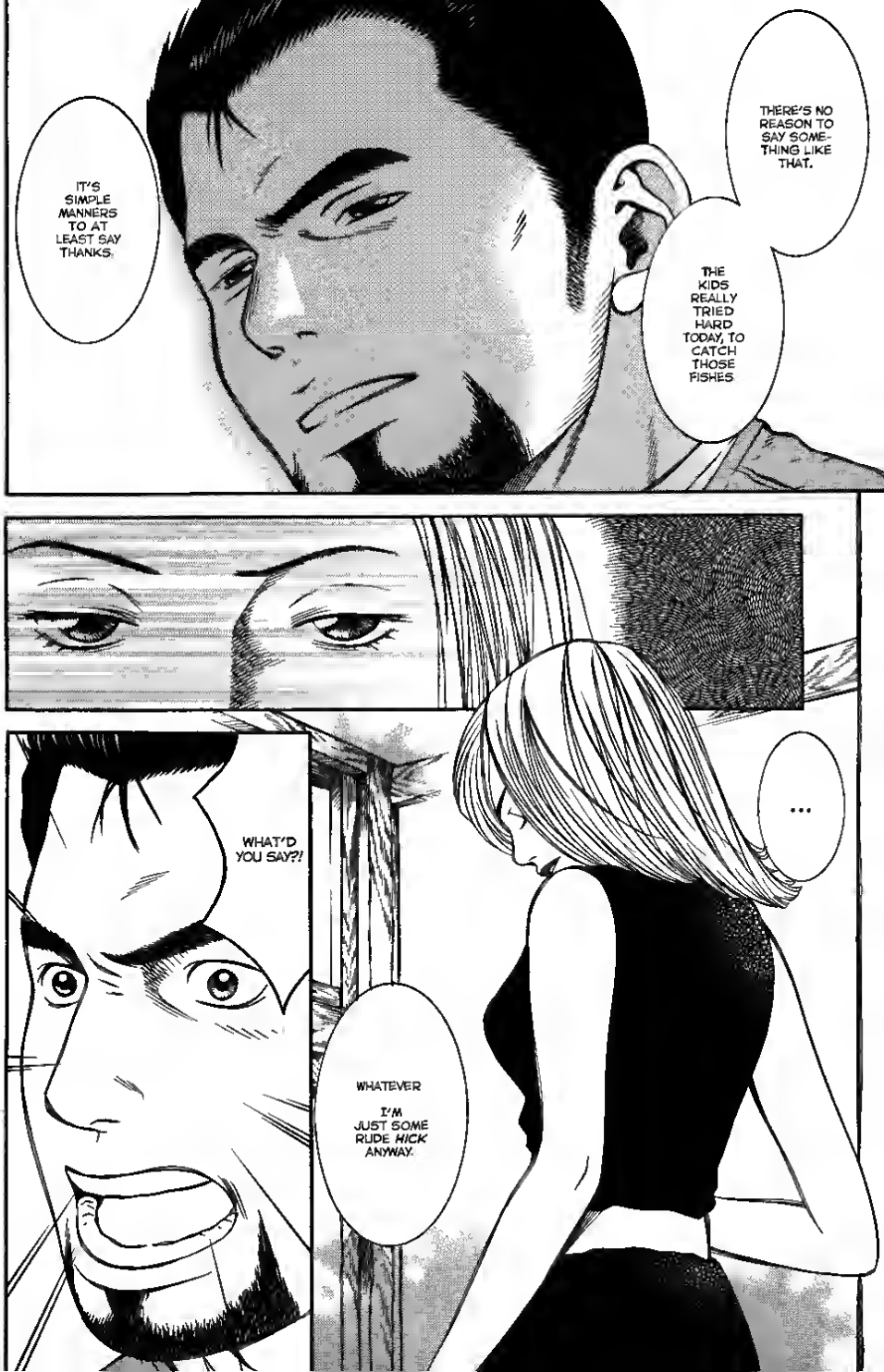
...LL THEN. WE'LL BE TAKING OUR LEAVE.
UNTIL NEXT TIME, 'KAY?
SAY "HI" TO YOUR HUSBAND FOR US.
TAKE CARE.

KSHK
SHU


DON'T EVER COME HERE AGAIN

WE'RE HOOOME!
LOOK, MA'AM! EVERYONE HELPED TO CATCH THESE FISHES!
MOMMY, LOOK! WE GOT A HUGE CATCH!

DON'T NEED THEM.
GIVE THEM TO CHINATSU-CHAN.
MAYUMI.
IT'S TIME FOR DINNER.
NOW, NOW, IT'S GETTING LATE. LET'S CALL IT A DAY.
BUT...


IT'S SIMPLE MANNERS TO AT LEAST SAY THANKS.
THERE'S NO REASON TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THE KIDS REALLY TRIED HARD TODAY, TO CATCH THOSE FISHES
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!
WHATEVER I'M JUST SOME RUDE HICK ANYWAY.
...

YOU'RE NEVER EVEN HERE, SO DON'T YOU ORDER ME AROUND!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY AND SAY THAT TO MY FACE?!
QUIT IT, YOU TWO, NOT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN!
ST··
...
MOM! DAD!
STOP IT!
ぐすん

千夏のうた
CHINATSU'S VOICE

STOP IT!
DON'T FIGHT!
That was the first time I saw it.
Chinatsu with such a serious face...

CHAPTER 16 - FAMILY

Oh my, what're we going to do with this much fish?
Just the two of us will never be able to eat it all.
Did you thank them properly? Chinatsu?
...
Chinatsu?
Hmp
T-today I--
Fuyuki taught me how to catch fish by the river.

IT WAS A BIT COLD, SQUATTING AND WAITING IN THE RIVER.
BUT IT WAS SO MUCH FUN...
THEY SAID FUYUKI LEARNED FROM HIS FATHER, AND HIS FATHER LEARNED FROM UNCLE.
AND THEN--
REALLY, IT WAS SO MUCH FUN!
CHINATSU..

I'M VERY SORRY...
THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS BEING REMINDED OF HOW LONELY YOU ARE...
I'M GOING OUTSIDE TO COOL DOWN FOR A BIT/
TP TP TP
AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME
I HAVE YOU AND FUYUKI
AND MUKU-MUKU, TOO

Chinatsu
With every passing day,
she becomes more and more like Fukiko.
Maybe, one day, just like Fukiko,
she will be taken away from me and disappear.
When I think of this, the pressure crushes my chest
SHAKK

FUYUKI!
WHAT'S UP?
ARE YOU TAKING A NIGHT WALK, TOO?
... I W-WAS... LOOKING FOR YOU.
YOU WERE ACTING ALL WEIRD JUST NOW.
SO I WAS KIND OF WORRIED, YOU KNOW ...

W-WHAT?!
THIS AIN'T ANYTHING TO LAUGH AT!
TIHIHIHI
IT WAS JUST TOO WEIRD. NOT LIKE YOU AT ALL.
THANKS, BUT I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
THAT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
WHEN THEY'RE BOTH AT HOME, THEY ARE A BIT QUICK-TEMPERED.
BUT IT DOES MEAN THEY ARE CLOSE IF THEY FIGHT A BIT.
IT'S THE SAME AT YOUR PLACE, RIGHT?
AH

And this is when I first noticed something.
The only person ever over at Chinatsu's place was her aunt
Maybe ...
Maybe both her parents--

Back then I was still very much a child.
I took everyone around me for granted, and never thought anything of it.
I had never really thought of other people's families' situations.
HEY, FUYUKI, WHAT'S THAT?
RIGHT THIS? FIRE-WORKS...
Wooow, LET'S FIRE SOME! C'MON!

DO YOU HAVE A LIGHTER OR SOME MATCHES?
YUP, FROM MY DAD...
GREAT!
C'MON LET'S GO DOWN TO THE SEA! THE SEA!
KSSSH
Wooow, SO BEAUTIFUL!

SNIFF
Ahhh, THIS SMELL
DARNIT, MUKUMUKU, DON'T COME HERE. I SAID IT'S DANGEROUS!
Whee!

HEY,
HOW LONG'S YOUR DAD GONNA BE HERE?

WHEN I SNIFF THIS SMELL OF BURNT POWDER I KINDA GET A "SUMMER'S HERE" KIND OF FEELING Y'KNOW...?
YUP, ME TOO.

YOU EVER SEEN THAT? HUGE FIRE-WORKS!
Ohhh, IS THAT SO?
CHINATSU, HAVE YOU HEARD?
THERE'LL SOON BE A SUMMER FESTIVAL HERE, AND THERE'LL BE LOTSA FIRE-WORKS
AND THE DAY AFTER THE FESTIVAL'S OVER, IT'S OFF TO TOKYO
Hmmm
SO DAD'S GONNA HELP OUT WITH STUFF DURING THE FESTIVITIES
THIS TOWN AIN'T GOT MANY YOUNG ADULTS,
HE APPEARS SUDDENLY, THEN DISAP-PEARS IN A FLASH
HE'S JUST LIKE FIREWORKS, MY DAD

NEXT TIME I WILL BRING SOME ALONG TOO.
SO LET'S DO THIS AGAIN, THEN!
SURE.
AUNTIE IS PROBABLY GETTING WORRIED BY NOW.
LET'S HEAD HOME, MUKU-MUKU.
VMRR
SEE YA TOMOR-ROW!

DAD, IT'S TOO HOT LET ME GO
FUYUKI,

EH? WHY?
WHAT ABOUT TOKYO?
HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF WANTING TO LIVE IN TOKYO...?
...
NAH, IT'S NOTHING
ANYWAY, LET'S GO TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK TOMORROW
AMUSEMENT PARK?!
B-BUT DAD, AREN'T YOU REALLY *BAD* WITH THE ROLLER-COASTERS...?
DON'T YOU WORRY. BESIDES, *YOU* WANT TO RIDE IT, RIGHT?

HEY, IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT QUIET DOWN A BIT, WILL YA?
I WANNA! I WANNA!
SERIOUSLY?! THIS IS GONNA BE SO FUN!
Right. That's how I was.
I took everyone around me for granted ...

千夏のうた
CHINATSU'S VOICE

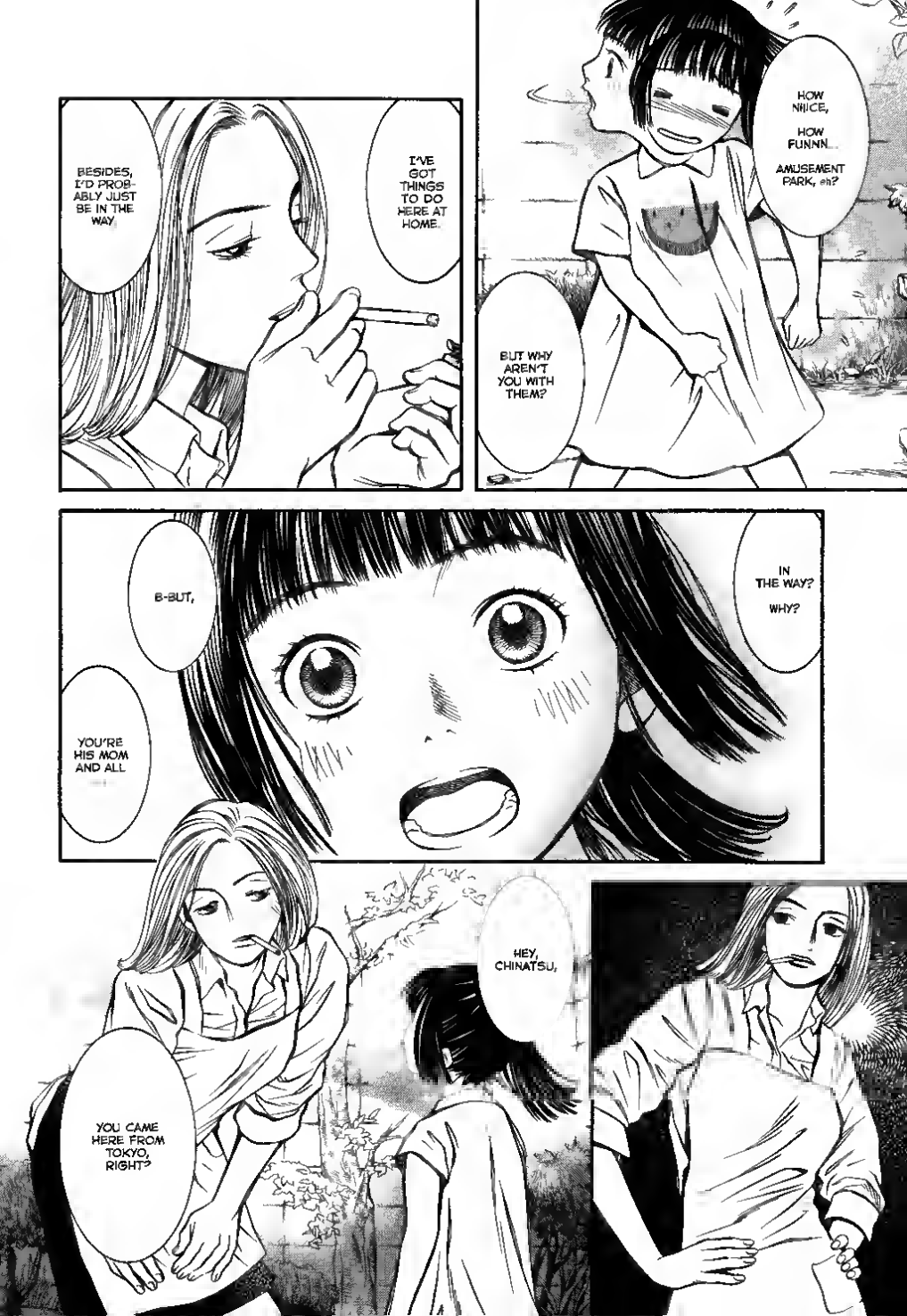
CH. 17 - WAY HOME

CHAPTER 17 - WAY HOME

GOOOD MOOORNING!
HELLO THERE CHINATSU.
AND MU-KUMUKU, TOO.
Oh MY, A WATER-MELON?
IT'S THANKS FOR THOSE FISHES YOU GAVE US.
HERE, MA'AM.

THESE TWO MATCH EACH OTHER
WELL DONE, CARRYING IT THIS FAR EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A GIRL
Ehehe! ♡
GOING OUT SHOPPING, CHOOSING CLOTHES FOR YOU, WOULD BE SO FUN
I'M SURE YOU WOULD LOOK GREAT IN ANY TYPE OF WESTERN CLOTHES
HOW NICE..
I ALSO REALLY WANTED A CUTE DAUGHTER LIKE YOU
Sigh
YOU KNOW,

B-BUT--
FUYUKI LOOKS LIKE YOU. HAND-SOME!
GUYS ARE HOPELESS, I GUESS...
AND I NEVER GET HIS JOKES.
ON THE OTHER HAND, FUYUKI..
HE'S NEVER QUIET AND HATES STUDYING,
AND YOU'RE BOTH VERY KIND
BY THE WAY, WHERE'S FUYUKI?
HE WENT WITH HIS FATHER TO THE AMUSE-MENT PARK EARLY THIS MORNING
AMUSEMENT PARK?!


HOW NIICE,
HOW FUNNN...
AMUSEMENT PARK, eh?
BUT WHY AREN'T YOU WITH THEM?
I'VE GOT THINGS TO DO HERE AT HOME.
BESIDES, I'D PROBABLY JUST BE IN THE WAY.
IN THE WAY?
WHY?
B-BUT,
YOU'RE HIS MOM AND ALL.
HEY, CHINATSU,
YOU CAME HERE FROM TOKYO, RIGHT?

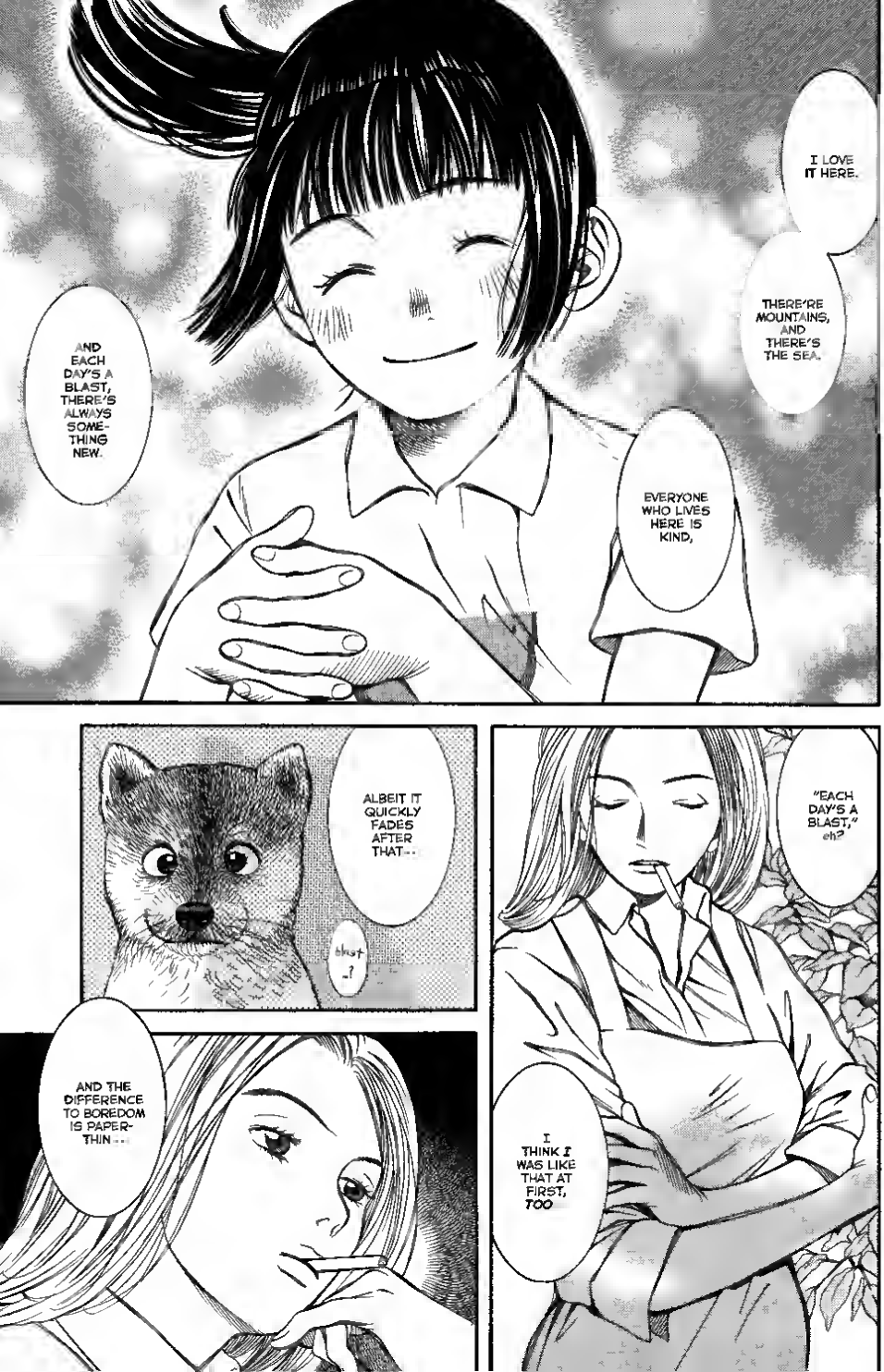
WHICH DO YOU LIKE BETTER, TOKYO OR THIS PLACE...?

HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
I DON'T WANNA PEE MYSELF, LIKE I DID BEFORE...
IT'S ALL OKAY, YOU HAVE YOUR POPS HERE!
FUYUKI, LOOK! LET'S GO INSIDE!
HAUNTED HOUSE
Ehh?
HATEFUL BITTERNESS
URRRRRRR...

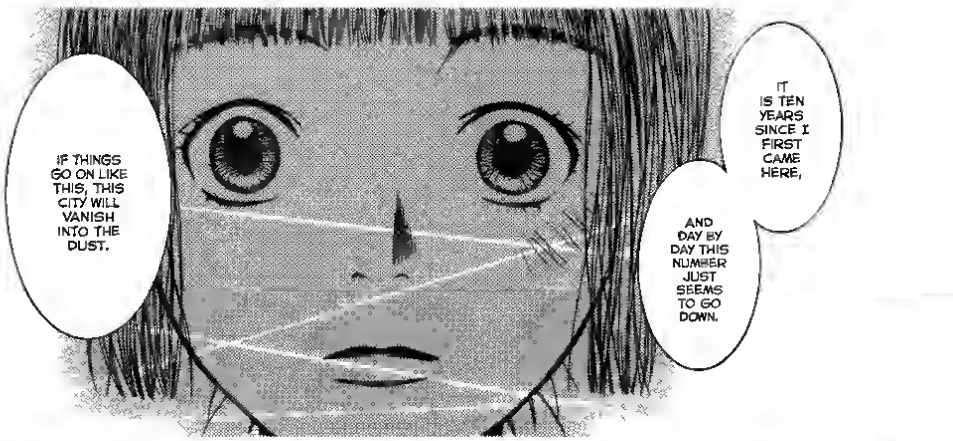
UGRAAH
WE AIN'T BITTER, YOU HAG!
hh, no, err
AHAHA
YOU ARE WAY SCARIER THAN A GHOST, DAD.
WHY OF COURSE!
GULP
OKAY, LET'S RIDE THAT ONE NOW♪

AR
RG
AA
H

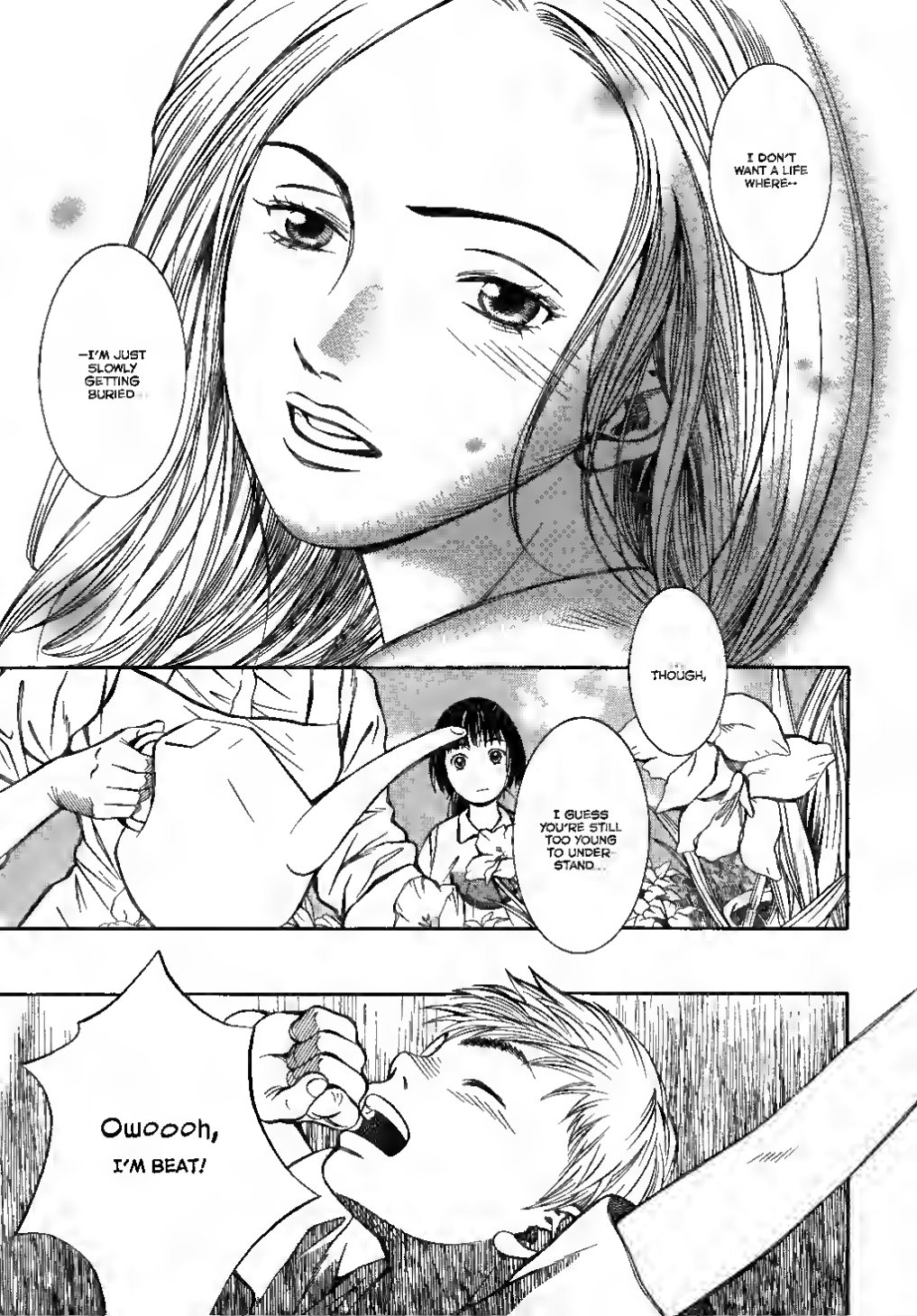
WHEN I WAS IN TOKYO I SPENT MOST OF THE TIME INSIDE
A FEW TIMES I WAS LET OUTSIDE AND I RAN AROUND
AND I DID SO UNTIL MY CHEST STARTED HURTING FROM TAKING ANY DEEP BREATHS


I LOVE IT HERE.
THERE'RE MOUNTAINS, AND THERE'S THE SEA.
EVERYONE WHO LIVES HERE IS KIND,
AND EACH DAY'S A BLAST, THERE'S ALWAYS SOME-THING NEW.
"EACH DAY'S A BLAST," eh?
I THINK I WAS LIKE THAT AT FIRST, TOO
ALBEIT IT QUICKLY FADES AFTER THAT--
bhut-?
AND THE DIFFERENCE TO BOREDOM IS PAPER-THIN...

CHINATSU HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED?
THIS TOWN IS JUST FULL OF OLD PEOPLE
YOU CAN ALMOST COUNT THE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH YOUR FINGERS

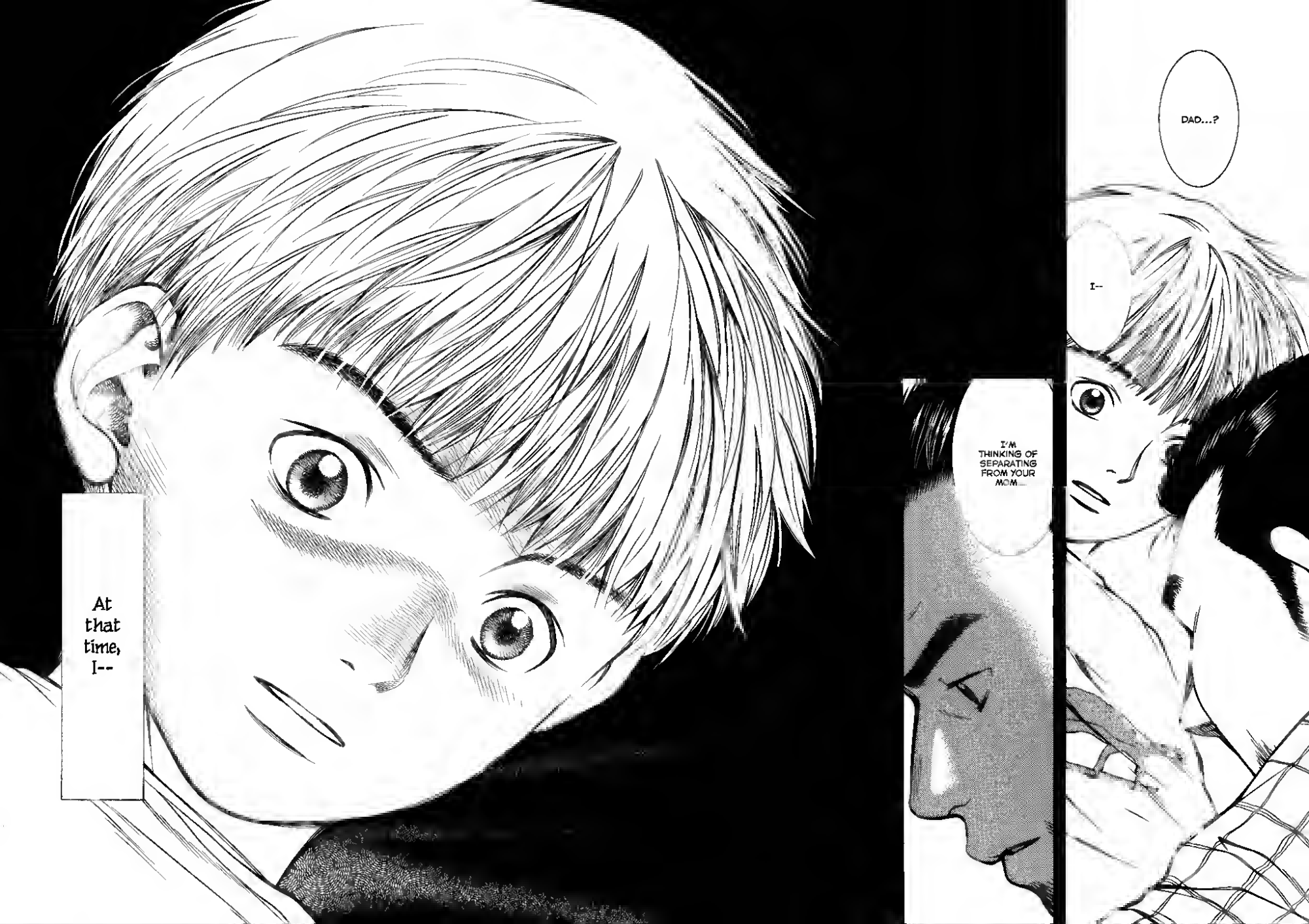

IT IS TEN YEARS SINCE I FIRST CAME HERE,
AND DAY BY DAY THIS NUMBER JUST SEEMS TO GO DOWN.
IF THINGS GO ON LIKE THIS, THIS CITY WILL VANISH INTO THE DUST.

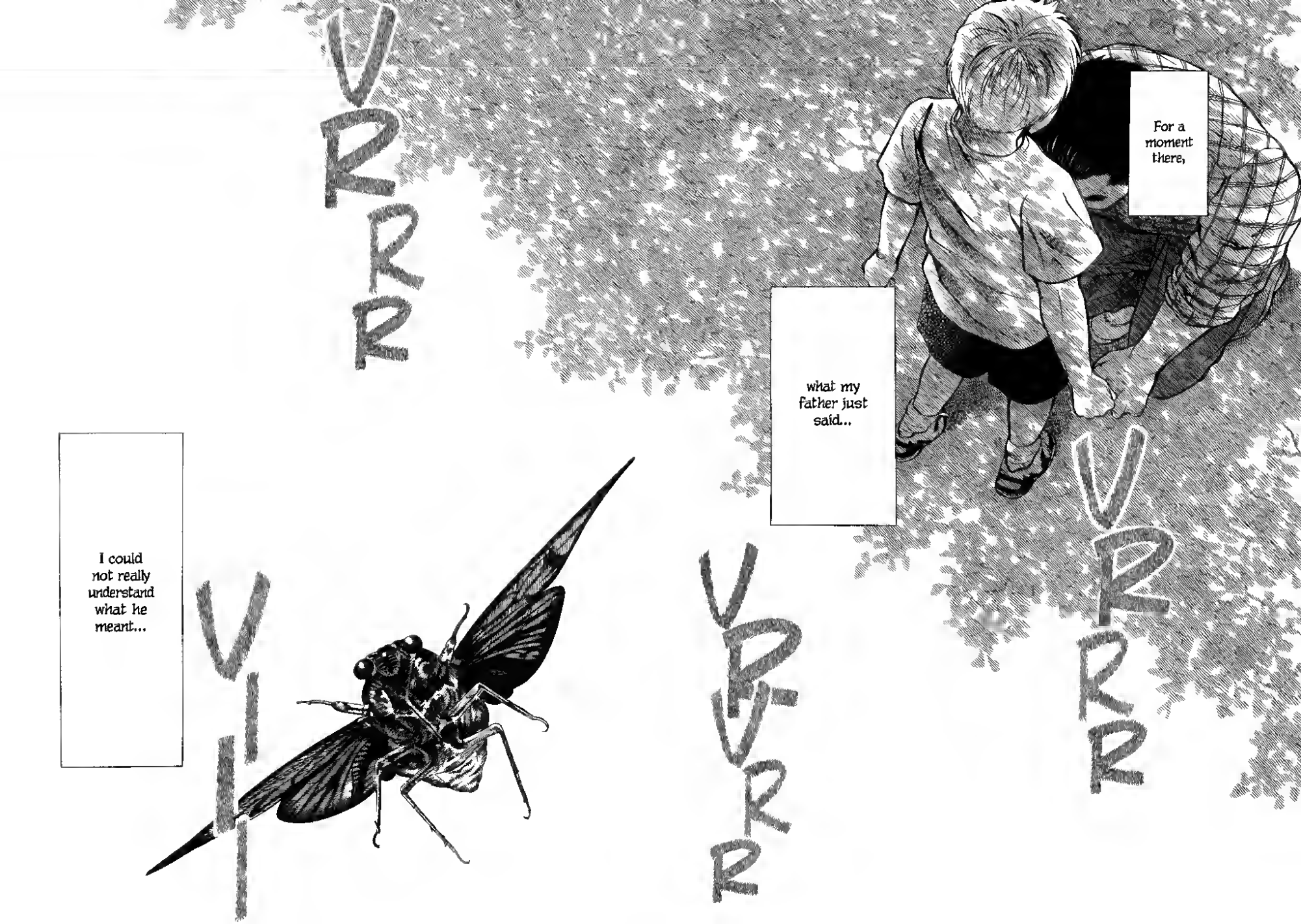
BUT I'M ONLY 31 YEARS OLD.
I STILL HAVE MY WHOLE LIFE AHEAD OF ME, YOU KNOW.


I DON'T WANT A LIFE WHERE…
—I'M JUST SLOWLY GETTING BURIED…
THOUGH,
I GUESS YOU'RE STILL TOO YOUNG TO UNDER STAND…
Owoooh,
I'M BEAT!

WE WALKED SO MUCH TODAY!
AND DADDY, YOUR SCARED FACE WAS SO FUNNY!
EVERYONE HAS SOMETHING THEY CAN'T HANDLE
THAT WAS SO FUN I'D WANNA GO EVERY DAY IF I COULD.
SUMMER BREAK'S NOT TOO FAR FROM ENDING, AND ALL.
BUT CRAP, I HAVE TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL LATER WHAT A PAIN!
...
FUYUKI...
?

YOU KNOW,
BETWEEN DADDY AND MOMMY.
WHO DO YOU LIKE THE MOST?
...
W--
WHO? I CAN'T--
YEAH, I GUESS SO. CAN'T ANSWER THAT.
I..
I THOUGHT, THAT IF IT'S POSSIBLE, YOU COULD LIVE WITH ME.


At that time, I--
I'M THINKING OF SEPARATING FROM YOUR MOM...
I--
DAD...?


VRRR
For a moment there,
what my father just said...
VRRR
VRRR
I could not really understand what he meant...
VIII
VRRR

千夏のうた
CHINATSU'S VOICE

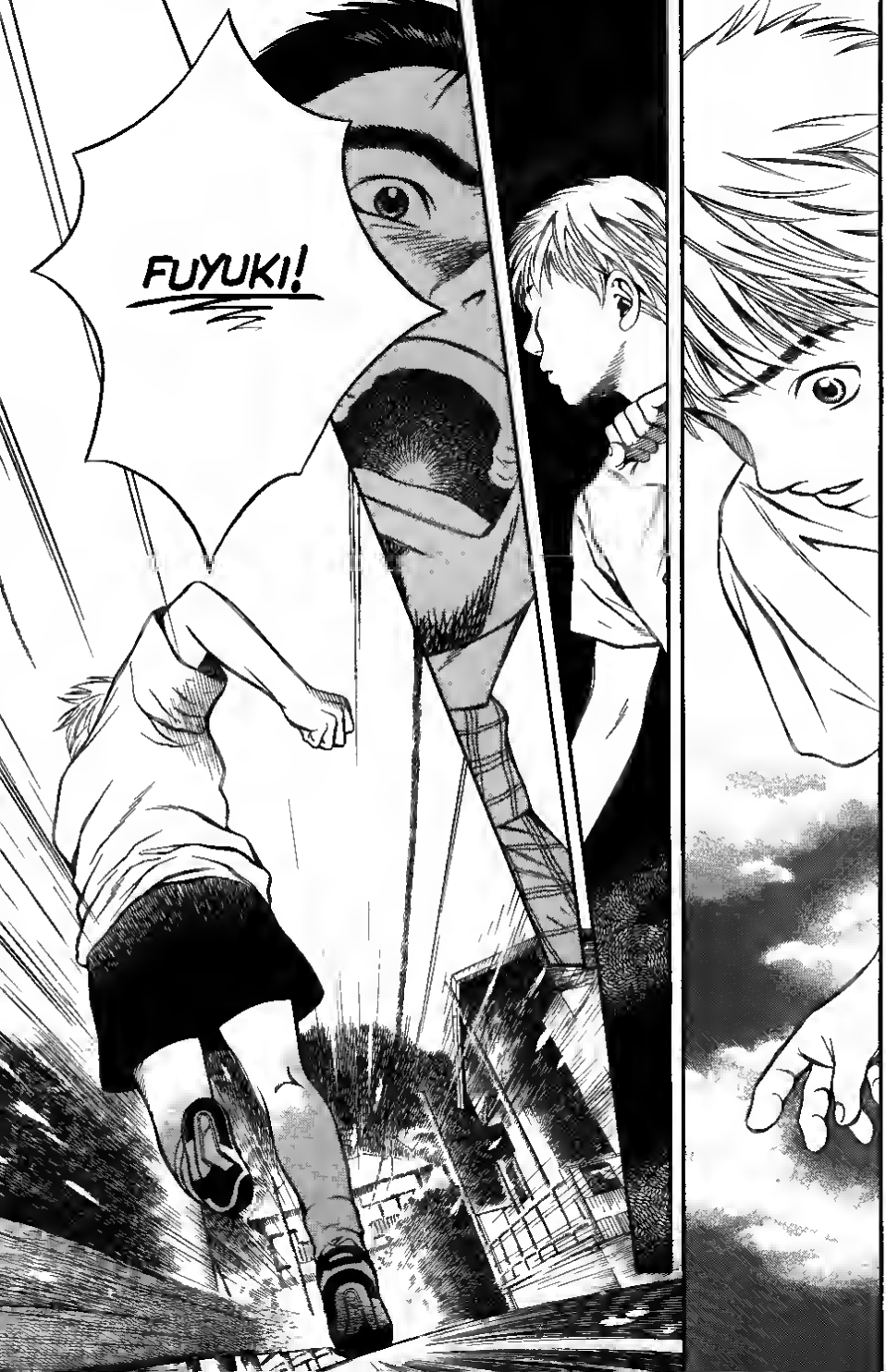
VRRR
I--
VRRR
I'M THINKING OF SEPARATING FROM YOUR MOM...
CH. 18 - FATHER'S CONFESSION

CHAPTER 18 - FATHER'S CONFESSION

W-
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DON'T YOU LIKE MOM ANY-MORE?
THAT'S NOT IT.
WE BOTH THINK HIGHLY OF EACH OTHER
THAT IS THE TRUTH.
BUT...
I DON'T WANT TO TRAP YOUR MOM IN THIS TOWN BECAUSE OF MY JOB.
IT HAS BEEN HURTING ME FOR A LONG WHILE
SINCE YOUR MOM HAS ALWAYS BEEN SOME-ONE WHO BELONGS TO THE CITY

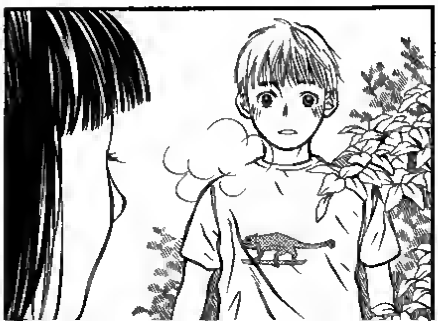
SHE DOESN'T FIT IN THIS TOWN, AFTER ALL...
...
WHAT ABOUT GRANDPA?
OF COURSE WE WON'T LEAVE HIM HERE, NOT WITH HIS EYES LIKE THAT
I WAS THINKING OF TAKING HIM TO TOKYO NO MATTER WHAT, ANYWAY.
THE ISSUE IS WHERE YOU'D RATHER--
HEY, DAD!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST *QUIT* YOUR JOB AT THE COMPANY AND START WORKING *HERE*?!
THERE'S THE FISH SHOP AT KURODA, OR AS A BUTCHER AT HOME!
I'M SURE YOU COULD EVEN BE A CARPENTER OR WORK ON A CONSTRUCTION SITE!

FUYUKI!
THEN MOM WOULDN'T NEED OR WANT TO GO BACK TO TOKYO...
YOUR MOM,
SHE PROBABLY HATES ME AND THIS TOWN BY NOW...

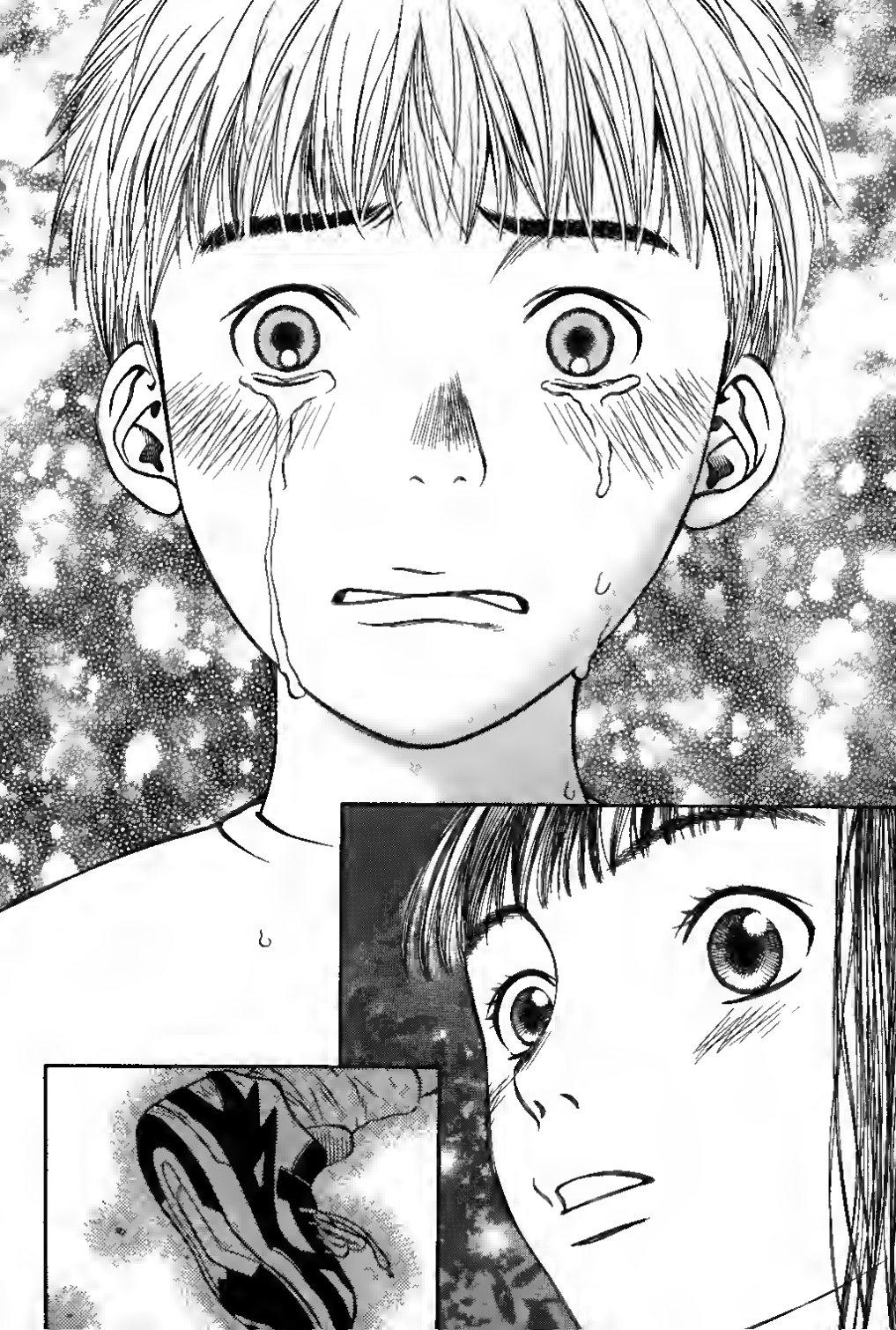

FUYUKI!

That is when I understood it all.
Why my father brought me to that amusement park.
Why he rode that rollercoaster together with me, even if he hated it.
HELP...

Help me,
Chinatsu.
Please!



FUYUKI!
Y-YOU SCARED ME!
WHAT IS IT?
YOU WENT TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK WITH YOUR DAD TODAY, RIGHT?
WAS IT FUN?



YOU TOLD FUYUKI ABOUT IT?!
I- I DIDN'T MEAN TO... IT KIND OF SLIPPED OUT...
WHERE IS HE?!
HE WAS WITH YOU!
HE DIDN'T COME HERE...?
NO, HE DID NOT! JESUS, WHAT IS WITH YOU?!
I'LL... GO OUT AND LOOK FOR HIM.
...

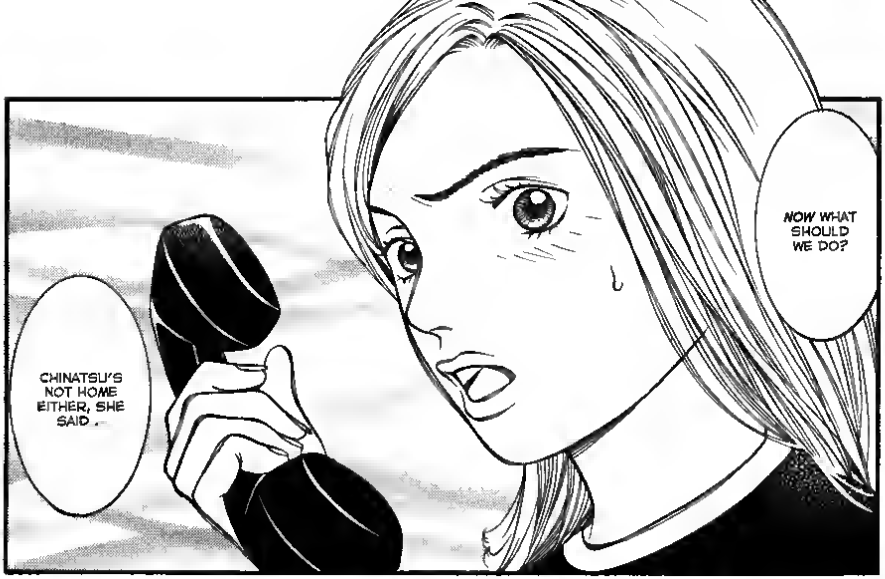
FUYUKI...
SUN'S GONE DOWN.
WE BETTER GO HOME—
HEY, WHAT'S··
I'M GONNA LEAVE!

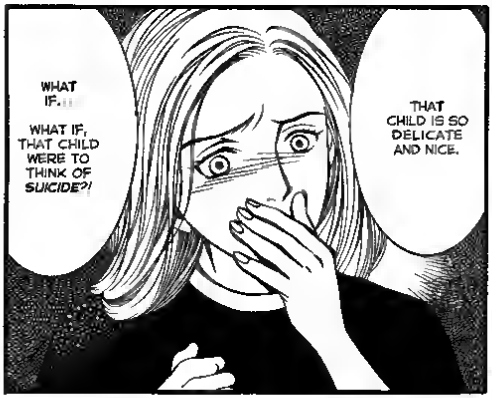
I'M GONNA RUN AWAY!
WHAT?
UNTIL MOM AND DAD GETS TOGETHER AGAIN, I AM NOT GONNA COME HOME!
I REFUSE TO!
I'M GONNA MAKE THEM WORRY AS MUCH AS I CAN!

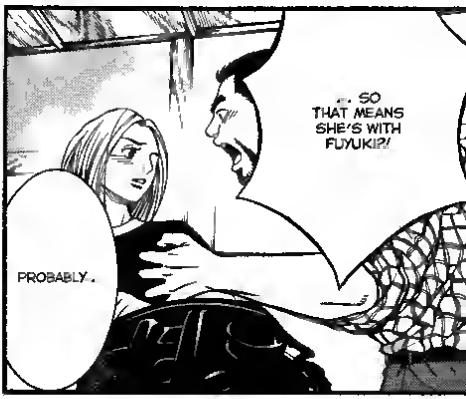
FUYU—?
AND YOU,
YOU'LL COME WITH ME, RIGHT?
Eh...?

CHAPTER 19 RUNNING AWAY

That was the day the father I once loved told me about my mother.
That moment when I was nine, when I first tasted this kind of despair.
The idea of running away grew like a seed in my mind.
Chinatsu was by my side at that moment...


NOW WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
CHINATSU'S NOT HOME EITHER, SHE SAID.


WHAT IF...
WHAT IF, THAT CHILD WERE TO THINK OF SUICIDE?!
THAT CHILD IS SO DELICATE AND NICE.


... SO THAT MEANS SHE'S WITH FUYUKI?!
PROBABLY.

YOU STUPID FOOL!
STOP SAYING SUCH NONSENSE!
IF CHINATSU SOMEHOW GETS INVOLVED, THEN--

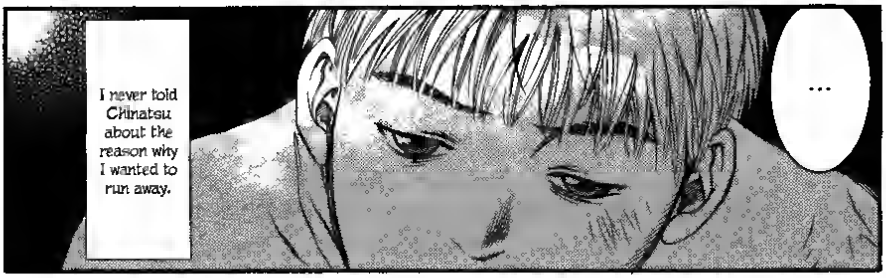
I-I'LL GO TO THE TOWN HALL AND CALL FOR A SEARCH PARTY...!
THIS IS ALL *YOUR* FAULT ANYWAY!
WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO?!
YOU TWO SURE ARE WORKED UP.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM AT A TIME LIKE *THIS*...?!
THAT KID WOULD *NEVER* DO SOMETHING FOOLISH LIKE THAT, I JUST KNOW.
BESIDES, CHINATSU'S WITH HIM.
ALL THE MORE REASON NOT TO WORRY.

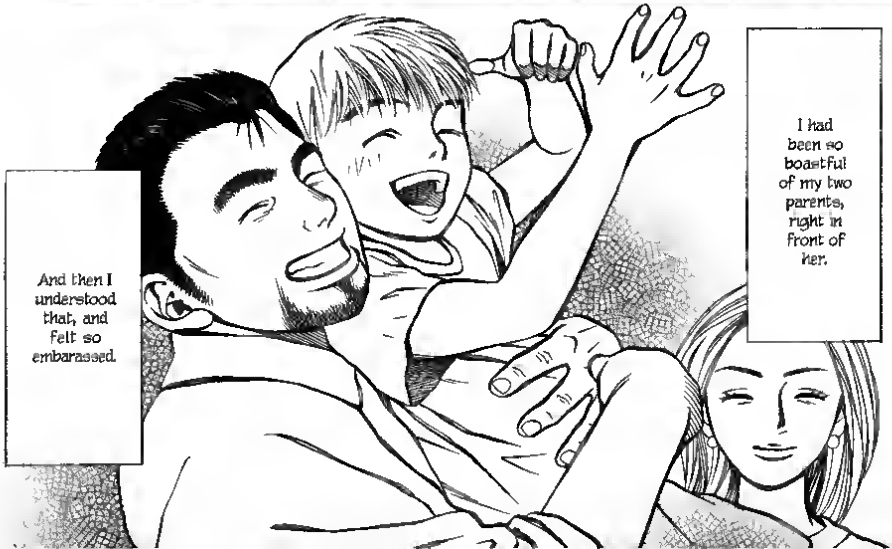
YOU TWO ARE HIS PARENTS YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE TO HIM.
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? HE IS STILL A CHILD.
IF YOU LOVE FUYUKI, THEN PROVE IT BY GOING TO HIM. BEING WITH HIM!
INSTEAD OF RELYING ON SOME SEARCH PARTY, GO FIND HIM YOURSELVES!

When I think about it.
Back then,
WAIT, I'LL GO TOO.
I'LL GO OUT AND LOOK AGAIN!
What was essential for a child's growth.
grandpa knew.
you need to overcome some obstacles.
To be able to live life to the fullest,

HOW BEAUTI-FUL....

THE VIEW HERE'S REALLY NICE AT NIGHT, TOO
THE TWINKLING LIGHTS ARE JUST LIKE A CHRISTMAS TREE.
WEIRD, eh? SINCE IT'S SUMMER...


I never told Chinatsu about the reason why I wanted to run away.
...


I had been so boastful of my two parents, right in front of her.
And then I understood that, and felt so embarassed.

She never asked.
Maybe she already knew.

I'M SORRY FOR GETTING YOU INTO THIS...
YOU CAN LEAVE ME ALONE.

... YOU CAN GO HOME NOW

IF YOU'RE NOT GOING HOME,
THEN NEITHER AM I.

NO WAY!
PLEASE...

IF YOU'RE STAYING, THEN I'M STAYING TOGETHER WITH YOU TOO!

Together...
Staying together...

Uhh...
SNF.

Those words,
they struck a raw nerve, since I had just left my parents.

Uehh
...

ARE YOU NOT HUNGRY?
DUN' WANT ANY.

FUYUKI,
YOU WANT SOME CHOCO-LATE...?

BY THE WAY,
DIDN'T YOU SHOW ME A PLACE WITH RASPBERRIES SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE?

IT'S NOT SAFE TO WALK THERE WHEN IT'S THIS DARK!
Ah, HEY! DON'T GO!
WAIT A SEC, I'LL GO FETCH SOME!
...
B-
BUT,
HOW CAN I MAKE YOU HAPPY AGAIN?

I DON'T KNOW HOW
Ah...
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE CRYING, IT'S MY PARENTS HAVING THE DIVORCE
AH

VSH
IS IT A DIVORCE...?
IS IT TRUE?!
TELL ME!
WHY IS THAT?!
WHY?!

DON'T ASK ME!
I DON'T EVEN KNOW!
NO WAY!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU DON'T!
WHY'RE YOU GETTING MAD AT ME?!
B-B-BECAUSE...
Urhh...
Fuh...

BUWAAH
UWEEHH
That day, we cried a year's worth of tears...

HEY, WAIT UP A BIT!
DON'T WALK SO FAST!
Ouch!
SH
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
MY LEG, IT'S--
YOU'RE SO SILLY WHY'RE YOU WALKING WITH THOSE HIGH HEELS..?
IT'S NOT MY FAULT..
I RAN OUT OF THE HOUSE WITHOUT THINKING

...
I'M A COMPLETELY HELPLESS WOMAN...
THE PEOPLE *HERE* CALL ME "THAT CITY WOMAN"
WITH MY FRIENDS FROM TOKYO IT'S EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE, I'M A *HICK*, A *COUNTRY BUMPKIN*
AND YOU KEEP INSISTING ON TALKING ABOUT DIVORCE.
AND NOW FUYUKI IS MISSING AT A TIME LIKE THIS
MAYUMI
ALL THIS, IS JUST--
I--

I'M AT THE PEAK OF MY LIFE AS A WOMAN, AND I AM TRYING MY BEST ON ALL THIS
ALL FOR NOTHING
WHY DOESN'T ANYONE APPRECIATE ME...?
JUST... WHY...?
DID YOU JUST HEAR SOME-THING?

LISTEN..
Eh...?
SOMEONE'S SINGING...

「週刊ヤングジャンプ」H16年12号、20号―29号まで
好評掲載されたものを収録しました。

◉ヤングジャンプ・コミックス◉

千夏のうた
❷

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